

Stars come out for GLAAD awards
B.D. Wong & Stockard Channing among those honored at SF black-tie event.

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Beefcake!
Model search to heat up Pride weekend.

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Martyr remembered
'Saint Harvey' opens the Intern'l Museum of GLBT History.
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BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 33 • No. 23 • 5 June 2003

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

Study: Tobacco company took advantage of gays

by Zak Szymanski

Philip Morris has been dragged out of the closet by two separate but related reports in the current issues of the *American Journal of Public Health and Tobacco Control*.

The tobacco company, according to University of California, San Francisco researchers, specifically targeted the gay community in the 1990s, donating money under the guise of philanthropy and advertising in gay media in order to boost its sales. Almost simultaneously, however, the company continued to support right-wing causes, and claimed no ties to the LGBT marketplace.

These observations come from the UCSF investigation of previously secret internal tobacco industry documents, now available as the result of tobacco industry litigation.

And the conclusions, according to UCSF, support the notion that marginalized communities remain vulnerable to marketing strategies that work against these communities' best interests.

"To be offered money and accept money from the industry seems like free money," said Naphtali Offer, a research associate in the UCSF School of Nursing Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences and lead author of one of the reports, "but it's not free money. What it usually does is it buys silence."

Offer's report, "From Adversary to Target Market," which appears in the June issue of *Tobacco Control*, traces Philip Morris' history with the gay community through the 1990-91 boycott of the Philip Morris-owned Marlboro cigarettes and Miller beer. At the time, Philip Morris was a leading corporate contributor to homophobic right-wing Senator Jesse Helms (R-North Carolina) and had donated over \$200,000 to the Jesse Helms Citizenship Center in North Carolina.

Launched by the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power, the Marlboro and Miller boycott demanded that Philip Morris stop funding Helms, renounce its past support, and meet with ACT UP/DC representatives to discuss the company's responsibility to the gay community and people with AIDS. Although the boycott was not universally embraced, it spread to more than 30 cities and 300 restaurants and bars nationwide, and Miller Lite suffered a 20 percent drop in sales in some areas.

"ACT/UP hurting Miller," read a page 16 ▶



Rick Gerhardt

10 years of AIDS awareness

The San Francisco Giants hosted the 10th annual Until There's A Cure Day at Pacific Bell Park Sunday, June 1 to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS. A moving pregame ceremony included a performance by the Glide Memorial Choir, remarks by AIDS advocates, and hundreds of volunteers, some of whom were from MCC-San Francisco, who formed a giant red ribbon. The Until There's A Cure Foundation received \$50,000 from the Giants Community Fund, and promptly donated the money to Continuum, TARC, and New Leaf: Services for Our Community in San Francisco, the Diablo Valley AIDS Center in Concord, and the Santa Cruz AIDS Project. Executive Director Jeff Cleary said more money generated from T-shirt, bracelet, and CD sales will be included in the foundation's grants that are awarded in September. The Giants went on to beat the Colorado Rockies 4-0.

Top UCSF AIDS researcher announces his resignation

by Matthew S. Bajko

San Francisco will lose one of the world's leading experts in AIDS research this fall when Tom Coates steps down as executive director of the AIDS Research Institute at the University of California at San Francisco. Coates informed friends and colleagues in May that he would be stepping down in September in order to relocate to Los Angeles and join the faculty at the University of California, Los Angeles Medical School. While Coates will continue his research into HIV and AIDS, he will also turn more of his attention to men-

toring students entering the profession.

Reached by phone in South Africa, where he is overseeing several research projects, Coates said it is time to step aside and allow others to move into leadership roles.

"It's a big change for everyone, including me. I will be training young physicians who want to become HIV doctors and want to do research," said Coates, 57, who will also be resigning as director of the UCSF Center for AIDS Prevention Studies. "My goal will be to bring new investigators into the field and I will be seeing what else comes my way. I will be focusing more on teaching, which is some-

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Rick Gerhardt
UCSF's Tom Coates, right, has had his share of San Francisco moments. Above, AIDS activist Michael Petrelis, left, in a stare-down with Coates at a City Hall hearing in August 2000, as members of ACT UP/San Francisco proclaim "AIDS is over" in the background.

Ex center director to get KQED Pride Award

by Cynthia Laird
and Joe Dignan

Brian Cheu, the former executive director of the LGBT Community Center, who left just as the center revealed significant fiscal troubles, will receive a Pride Award from KQED-TV later this month.

When Cheu started work at the center last year, there was a staff of 20 and a nearly \$3 million annual budget. Now, the center is struggling to stay solvent. It lost \$642,000 between July 2002 and February 2003. It is down to a staff of 13, and board co-chair Scott Wiener said the center's board is working on the premise that it will take in about a million dollars this year — about a third of what it had expected before it opened.

KQED Vice President Patricia Evans told the *Bay Area Reporter* on Tuesday, June 3 that neither she nor the award selection committee was aware of the controversy surrounding Cheu's tenure at the center until this week. Cheu took the reins as executive director in May 2002 and resigned — after only seven months — in January; his last day of work was April 25.

Evans said that in the selection process, they consider length of service and type of service and try to get a diverse group, with a mix of men and women. The station makes six sets of "local hero" awards each year in six categories: Latinos, blacks, women, Asian Pacific Americans, American Indians, and

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what would i do without you?



LYRIC 'Champions' honored



Jane Philomen Cleland

The Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center held its annual "Champion Awards" Wednesday, May 28 at the LGBT Community Center. Pictured are Executive Director Kar Yin Tham; emcee Mitch Thompson; awardees James Guay, Rene Muslin, and Laurie Lenon, representing Dimensions health clinic; Anna Damiani, aide to Assemblyman Mark Leno; awardee Saun-Troy Trotter; and awardee Andre Caillouette.

Pride adds partnerships

by Zak Szymanski

Public input has influenced the tone and structure of this year's San Francisco LGBT Pride Parade and Celebration on June 28 and 29, as the Pride Committee announced this week the addition of two new community partnerships that will make their presence known at the event.

In collaboration with the Deaf Gay and Lesbian Center, Pride will offer greater access to deaf and hard of hearing spectators.

For the first time ever, there will be a safe space, without visual barriers, for uninterrupted conversations in American Sign Language. Additionally, extra ASL interpreters will be available at various Pride stages and villages, at the bleachers along the parade route, and at the Pride information center. And many organizations working the beverage concession stands will receive training on how to effectively communicate with deaf and hard of hearing patrons.

"We're thrilled to be working so closely with the Pride Committee this year, and it has really paid off," said a statement from Tom Higgins, outreach specialist at the DGLC. "Not only will our community enjoy greater access than ever at Pride 2003, but I think we've also developed a model partnership that other cities can benefit from in the future."

Also responding to the outcry for a more politicized event, Pride has entered into an unprecedented agreement with Equality California (formerly CAPE) to ensure that the community has opportunities to learn about pending LGBT legislation affecting domestic partnership rights and discrimination protections.

Specifically, Pride will be pushing AB205 — Assemblywoman Jackie Goldberg's (D-Los Angeles) expanded domestic partnership bill — by publicizing a postcard campaign to persuade Governor

Gray Davis to support the bill; pitching the story to news outlets as the political angle of this year's Pride; linking its Web site to EQCA and AB205 information; and hosting a centrally-located booth during Pride with information and tools for advocacy. Additionally, a 25-year look at LGBT civil rights is planned at a rally before the annual raising of the rainbow flag on the steps of City Hall.

Already, noted Executive Director Teddy Witherington, Pride has taken a number of political stands this year, including participating in the Martin Luther King Day march; endorsing an antiwar position against the conflict in Iraq; scheduling the annual Community United Against Violence "Stand Against Hate" rally for Saturday's main stage; and hosting Board of Equalization Chairwoman Carole Migden's annual mass domestic

partner commitment ceremony. Additionally, Sunday's parade marchers will be asked to carry placards urging attendees to support both domestic partnership rights through AB205 and full equality through marriage.

"While the Pride Committee has taken a stand on a number of different issues this year, our goal is to remain inclusive of all shades of political thought," said Witherington. "With the many groups that are involved in the event, ranging from Out Against the War to the Log Cabin Republicans — who are participating for the first time this year — I think we have achieved that goal." ▼

More information is available at www.sfp pride.org; www.dcaro.org/dglc/; and www.eqca.org.

Community to 'Get Loose' at Shanti speakeasy event

by Zak Szymanski

Dress dapper or flapper, as organizers of Shanti's speakeasy casino event put it, but don't miss the chance to participate in a prohibition-era party aboard a floating casino on Saturday, June 14.

Blackjack, craps tables, slot machines, and live entertainment will accompany the evening at the Eureka Ferryboat, docked at the Hyde Street Pier. The seventh annual event starts at 8 p.m. and includes a silent auction, wine and fine spirit tasting, food, and a raffle drawing.

Like many nonprofits, Shanti — which provides assistance to people with HIV/AIDS, breast cancer, and other life-threatening illnesses — is expecting city budget cuts

that will make it difficult to fulfill its mission. Which is why, said Shanti Executive Director Hywel Sims, this year's event is even more crucial to attend.

"Shanti is still up for a \$408,000 cut for its services in San Francisco. It's penny-wise and pound foolish to cut it really, because it cuts from our volunteers who donate 25,000 hours a year at a comparatively low cost," said Sims. "So things like the casino event and any donations we can receive will help. But we feel the Board of Supervisors should reject the proposed budget before them."

Tickets to Shanti's floating casino are \$20. Gaming money can be purchased at the event. For more information, call (415) 674-4764 or e-mail dmartin@shanti.org. ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Davis refutes assertion he will veto DP bill

by Matthew S. Bajko

Mith the state Assembly set to vote this week on a historic bill that would elevate domestic partnerships to equal status with marriages, gay rights activists were fuming about a story over the weekend in a Southern California newspaper.

The article in the Saturday, May 31 edition of the *Santa Barbara News Press* quoted Assemblywoman Hannah-Beth Jackson (D-Santa Barbara) as saying that Governor Gray Davis intends to veto the domestic partner legislation, AB205.

"I'd rather see us proceed with a bill that the governor will sign, rather than walk away empty-handed," Jackson said, noting that the governor has already said he will veto the legislation, according to the article.

That shocked gay rights activists who have been given no such indication that Davis will veto the bill. While aides to Davis have indicated the governor is concerned about several provisions of the bill, they have stated he intends to sign a DP bill that expands the rights of gay and lesbian couples this year.

According to gubernatorial spokesman Russ Lopez, the governor has never said he will veto the legislation.

"The governor hasn't taken a position on AB205. In fact our office is working with [Assemblywoman Jackie] Goldberg," said Lopez, who is gay. "I don't have any details but I know we are in discussion."

Goldberg (D-Los Angeles), the lead author of the bill, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that she checked with the governor's staff after seeing the article and said there is no truth to the notion he will veto the bill.

"He has not made any threats of any type to veto the bill," she said.

And while she would not go into detail about her conversations with the governor's staff, she did say there has been no movement to water down the bill.

"They have not weakened the bill at all and have not asked to weaken the bill at all," she said. "They have raised quite a number of questions such as how will this work and what does that mean and in the process have made the bill a better bill in my opinion."

Jackson was unavailable for comment this week. But her chief of staff Janice Rocco, when asked if the *News Press* story was accurate said, "No." Rocco said Jackson was never told by Davis that he would veto the bill but based her statements on her experience of working with the governor over the last four and a half years.

"I suspect what she said, given what she actually knows, is it is her belief if the bill stays in the same form then the governor is likely to veto it," said Rocco.

According to Rocco and press accounts, Jackson is unwilling to support the legislation because it uses the word marriage in the bill. In her interview with the *News Press*, Jackson explained her reservations stemmed from voter approval of Proposition 22 in 2000, which defined marriage as solely between a man and a woman.

"The voters of California have indicated they are not in favor of same-gender marriage," Jackson told the paper. "When you see the backlash, you have to be strategic. AB205 attempts to take all the rights that California offers to married couples and puts them all into one bill, and I think that is a counterproductive strategy."

Rocco told that B.A.R. that Jackson "strongly supports expanding rights to domestic partners but did not believe use of the word marriage [in the bill] would make that goal a reality. There has

been discussion about removing the word. I don't know what the outcome will be."

This week conservative groups used Jackson's comments to attack another Democratic Assemblywoman, Rebecca Cohn, from Saratoga. The full-page ads placed Monday in the *Santa Maria Times* and *San Luis Obispo Tribune* quoted Jackson's opposition to the bill and asked readers to call Cohn and press her not to vote for the bill.

After being flooded with calls and e-mails, Cohn, who like Jackson is aiming to run for state Senate, has said she will support the bill.

Due to Jackson's concerns, an amendment is expected to be attached to the bill which would clarify the legislation will not grant marriage to gay and lesbian couples but only confer to domestic partners the same rights straight couples who wed receive.

The legislation was expected to be passed by the Assembly today. Friday is the deadline for bills in the Assembly to be sent to the Senate for approval before being sent to the governor's desk.

"We are cautiously optimistic – with or without Hannah-Beth Jackson – we will have the votes," said Geoffrey Kors, executive director of Equality California, a statewide gay rights lobbying group that is co-sponsoring the legislation.

The drama surrounding the fight over the domestic partner

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Singer, AIDS fundraiser Jo-Carol Davidson dies

by Cynthia Laird

Jo-Carol Davidson, a celebrated recording artist, songwriter, musician, and AIDS fundraiser, died Wednesday, June 4 at California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco. She was 47.

The cause of death was a cerebral aneurysm. According to friends, Ms. Davidson collapsed on Sunday evening, June 1, on her way to sing in the San Francisco Cabaret Competition at Foley's Irish House. She had just left her hairdresser and was on her way to the gig when she collapsed in the street. Her friends and family realized something was terribly wrong when she didn't arrive at Foley's — she was never late to a performance.

Primarily known for her rock and roll and disco singing, Ms. Davidson, who was professionally known as Jo-Carol, was interested in branching out into cabaret performing. She had already won the first round of the annual competition and was hoping to make it to the finals after Sunday night.

An excellent communicator and writer, Jo-Carol worked as a public relations director for San Francisco animation studio, Wild Brain Inc., for the past three years. Previously, she was public relations director for Colossal Pictures, another San Francisco-



Jo-Carol Davidson

based animation house.

But it was Jo-Carol's many performances at benefits for AIDS charities that made her much loved by members of San Francisco's gay community. Longtime AIDS activist Gary Virginia, who helped produce the *Carols Across America* benefit CD, said that Jo-Carol generously donated her talent as a featured vocalist on two tracks, and backup vocals on other tracks, for the CD, which raised \$10,000 for the AIDS Emergency Fund and Positive Resource Center last year. She also had served as a co-chair of AEF's board of directors.

"She was very easy to work with," Virginia, a longtime friend, told the

Bay Area Reporter. "It's such a loss for our community. It was very much like her to pop into Daddy's or the Edge and do a number."

Most recently, Jo-Carol stopped by the Edge to support the "Pride Idol" contest and fundraiser for the Breast Cancer Emergency Fund and Positive Resource Center.

"She excitedly ran over to the sound booth at the Edge when we played her new Madonna megamix medley and she exclaimed, 'Oh my God, I've never heard this song in a club before!' With little encouragement, she took the microphone to sing along in her impeccable, improvisational style to bring the house to roaring applause," Virginia stated.

Jo-Carol was a founding artist, with Patrick Cowley, of his Megatone label, and she toured with Sylvester. She released hits as a solo artist ("Born to be Wild," "House on Fire"), as part of a duo with JoLo ("Last Call"), and as part of the group Modern Rockery ("Cuba Libre"). She headlined acclaimed clubs and venues throughout the world, including the prestigious Hollywood Bowl, Atlanta's Civic Center, and Manhattan's The Saint and Studio 54.

As a studio vocalist, Jo-Carol has recorded with such varied artists as Narada Michael Walden, The Doobie Brothers, Crystal

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Staph scare among gay men subsides

by Matthew S. Bajko

For months after health officials began publicly discussing an outbreak of drug-resistant staph among gay men, the infections, as well as alarm within the community, seem to have subsided.

"We are back to baseline numbers. It is still happening but we are not having the explosion of cases that we had before," Dr. Mitch Katz, the city's health director, told the Bay Area Reporter this week.

Most recently, there was an outbreak of the methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) at San Francisco General Hospital. But more alarming to doctors is that the latest strains of staph appear to be even more powerful than the ones first detected.

"One thing that is concerning is it appears to be taking up resistance to more drugs. In San Francisco the MRSA had been responding and was sensitive to a lot of other antibiotics," said Dr. Edwin Charlebois, an infectious disease epidemiologist with the University of California at San Francisco who has studied MRSA since 1999. "We have noticed recently it has been acquiring resistance to more antibiotics such as ciprofloxacin, the drug used for

anthrax. In those few strains we have seen recently, it would not be a good drug to use."

Since last summer reports of MRSA infections among gay men have surfaced in Los Angeles and San Francisco. In late January and early February the story broke in the press and soon cases of the powerful strain of staph had sprung up across the country.

The news caused some to panic and others to fear a new disease along the lines of AIDS had begun to spread throughout the gay community. To counter misinformation about the staph skin infections, health officials held a community forum to better inform the public of how to avoid, as well as treat, the potentially deadly staph.

"Part of it was the unknown quality to it made people panic and be really concerned about it," said Shana Krochmal, spokeswoman for the Stop AIDS Project, which helped host the forum. "There was pretty strong community response and a lot of information about how staph was transmitted was quickly disseminated throughout the community."

Since then the war in Iraq and the outbreak of SARS, or severe acute respiratory syndrome, have garnered the nation's attention and pushed aside the staph outbreaks from the forefront of con-

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TG activist honored



Jane Philomen Oldland

Lohana Berkins, right, received this year's "Felipa Award" from Paula Ettelbrick, executive director of the San Francisco-based International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission. Berkins, a committed transgender activist, was recognized for her work in Argentina, where she helped found the Argentinean Transvestite Asociacion in 1995. The ceremony took place Thursday, May 29 in the Palm Room at the San Francisco Film Centre in the Presidio.

Napa celebrates inaugural Pride Sat.

by Matthew S. Bajko

Napa will don rainbow colors this weekend as the local LGBT community hosts its first Pride celebration.

Sponsored by the North Bay Unity League, the first-ever Napa Valley Pride weekend aims to celebrate the diversity of the Napa Valley and the accomplishments and contributions of its LGBT citizens.

The Pride celebration culminates a yearlong effort to boost awareness of gay issues and the LGBT community in the Napa Valley. Last June, local organizers fought a rancorous fight to have Napa's mayor sign a gay Pride proclamation.

In the end, the mayor signed the decree and publicity surrounding the battle helped to boost the fledgling gay group's

profile in the local area. With the backing of the Unity League, former San Francisco resident Chris Edwards became the first openly gay man to run for city council last winter.

Although Edwards lost the race, he did place fourth in a seven-way contest. And his candidacy helped propel Napa's gay community into the limelight.

Now it is time to celebrate.

The Pride party kicks off with a "Diversity Dance" on Saturday, June 7 at the Napa Valley Opera House's Cafe Theatre. DJ Rotten Robbie will spin tunes from 8 p.m. until 1 a.m. The dance is for those 21 and over, with a \$25 cover charge, a no-host beer and wine bar, raffle, and other activities.

Then on Sunday, June 8, the Unity League is hosting a family picnic from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the Redwood Pavilion at Kennedy Park. The picnic is free and open

to LGBTs, their families, friends, and allies. Activities will include games, face painting, music, softball and volleyball, and participants should supply their own food.

Proceeds from the two-day Pride event will benefit Molly's Angels, an organization that assists residents of the valley who are in need of immediate help. Molly Banz, founder of the non-profit group, said she is delighted

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San Jose Pride this weekend

by Zak Szymanski

Those who just can't wait any longer for local Pride festivities should head for Silicon Valley this weekend, where "Power of Pride," the 2003 San Jose Gay Pride Celebration, takes place June 7-8.

Discovery Meadow in San Jose is the site of Saturday's "Community Day in the Park," featuring performances by local artists, pick-up volleyball, vendor booths, and activities for the entire family. Performers include Lisa Dewey, 2nd Date, and San Francisco's 1950s drag rock sensation The Woodyz. The daylong event is free of charge and runs from noon until 6 p.m.

The Pride Parade is Sunday, June 8, starting at 10:30 a.m. and features community, civic, and business leaders marching from St. John to San Carlos streets along downtown San Jose's Market Street.

After the parade, visitors can stroll down to the 2003 Gay Pride Festival, which runs from 11 a.m.

to 7:30 p.m. in Discovery Meadow. Entertainment features a lineup of divas and dance music talent, including Crystal Waters, Ce Ce Penniston, Kim English, and Gioia Bruno, formerly of the group Expose. Lesbian comedian Suzanne Westenhoffer will also make her first San Jose Pride appearance, and local talent includes the Silicon Valley Gay Men's Chorus, Iotti's ProLatino Aztec Dancers, the Cheeseballs, Orchestra de Soul, and Michael Jameson. Festival areas include the Watergarden Dance Tent, the SUN Country Western Dance Area and the new ProLatino Cultural Area.

The Pride Festival is \$8 in advance (www.tickets.com) and \$10 at the gates. Advance tickets can also be purchased at Community Day in Discovery Meadow on June 7.

Everyone is invited to San Jose Pride, which this year highlights "the many organizations that contribute to the Santa Clara Valley LGBT community," according to organizers.

For more information visit www.sjgaypride.org or call (408) 278-5563. ▼

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Apathy reigns?

Any day now, the U.S. Supreme Court will issue a ruling on what is arguably the most important gay rights case in a generation: *Lawrence v. Texas*. The ruling could be a huge victory for the community, if the court strikes down the Texas law prohibiting consensual sex between same-sex couples; or it could be a grave defeat, if the court upholds the homophobic law. Our question to the LGBT community is: what will happen when the decision is announced? Will there be demonstrations at 18th and Castro, either celebrating or condemning the ruling, or will there be general apathy?

We ask this because, lately, it seems as though the community has lost some of its fire, particularly regarding LGBT-specific matters. Many community members have participated in antiwar protests over the last several months; and, conversely, after the war in Iraq started, some community members actively supported the president's prosecution of the war.

But what about matters affecting the community? There are several that deserve attention:

1. The rampant use of crystal methamphetamine among gay men severely threatens the health and well-being of our community. Much has been written about the problem – in this publication and others – and a Board of Supervisors committee even had a hearing, all in the hopes of getting the community fired up enough to address the problem. Not only is speed a highly addictive drug that can lead a user to lose his/her job, home, and personal friendships, but use of the drug also can lead to a reduction in safe sex practices, which in turn can lead to increased HIV and sexually transmitted disease infection. Yet, despite all the recent publicity, there doesn't seem to be an outcry from gay men about the significant problems crystal meth poses for them and for the community at large. In the midst of budget cuts, concerned residents should be lobbying officials about the vital need for increased funding for substance abuse programs, so that those who want to break the cycle of addiction can get the help they need.

2. The LGBT Community Center was billed as a place for everyone. Now, as it struggles to emerge from very real financial problems, community members (with the exception of some who have written letters stating that they made donations) have generally reacted with a collective yawn. When Positive Resource Center faced its major fiscal troubles, the community rallied to its support, hosting benefits,

and raising awareness as well as money. That support played a big role in the organization's ability to raise money and keep its doors open. In the case of the community center, its board has been silent in public. The two co-chairs speaking for the center have not answered all of our questions, which we ask in an attempt to hold the center accountable to the thousands of community members who donated millions of dollars to construct the building, as well as to provide the community with information. A new executive director is slated to begin work later this month, and we hope one of the first things he does is gather information on the problems to discuss them with the community in a straightforward manner.

3. The Texas case. Robin Tyler and Andy Thayer, two of the people behind the stopdrula.com effort a couple of years ago, have announced that they are helping LGBT communities in various cities organize events for when the Supreme Court issues its ruling. Already, actions are planned in West Hollywood, Washington, D.C., and Chicago. San Francisco should be added to that list. Members of the city's two gay political clubs or others who are interested (perhaps those in the legal and civil rights communities) should start planning for at least a simple demonstration to be held the

day of the decision. Interested people can e-mail CABNstopthehate@aol.com or Robin.Tyler@aol.com.

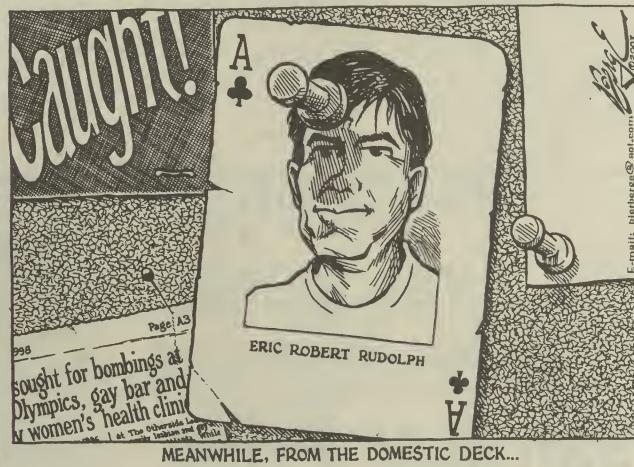
4. Senator Rick Santorum's homophobic comments. Board of Equalization Chairwoman Carole Migden said recently that she believes the community dropped the ball after the Pennsylvania Republican equated homosexuality with bigamy, polygamy, and incest. Speaking at the annual Milk Club dinner, Migden said, "I'm still mad about Rick Santorum and feel we've let it drop. Why was it only gay groups that were upset?" She called on the community to develop minimum standards for politicians and to hold them to those standards. "Let's not allow ourselves to lose like we did with ENDA [Employment Non-Discrimination Act] the

last time," she said.

We realize that one of the greatest negative impacts of the AIDS epidemic is that it virtually wiped out a generation of gay leaders. Those men, who died too young, would have been mentors and activists for this generation.

But new activists have emerged, and queer youth have programs today to help empower them.

It is time for the community to shed this complacency. Only by speaking out and demanding action can change begin to occur. ▼

Editorial

MEANWHILE, FROM THE DOMESTIC DECK...

Disband America's sex police?

by Carl L. Jech

I am under no illusion that Senator Rick Santorum isn't antigay to the hilt. Similar to some religious groups his position seems to be that it is okay to be gay as long as one doesn't do anything gay – a ridiculous cover for bigotry, something like saying you can be tall as long as you don't do anything tall. When will bigots learn that being LGBTQ is about identity/personhood and not just about incidental behavior?

But I am also aware that when it comes to laws (and the Constitution) very careful distinctions are necessary. The comparison between incest, bigamy, polygamy, adultery, and homosexuality did raise one legitimate point: Should any of these things be crimes?

Utah had to outlaw polygamy (still common in many cultures) in order to achieve statehood. Might it not make more sense for us to see the people involved in some of these kinds of activities as sexual minorities? We might discourage some of their activities in a variety of ways, especially when things like deceit, exploitation, abuse, and manipulation are involved. But does it really do any good to criminalize such behavior?

I remember an ethics course in which the professor opined that bestiality might be

disgusting, silly, or risky, but he questioned whether it was wise to treat it as either illegal or even as immoral. As the United States tries to discourage theocracies and other kinds of dictatorial regimes that often criminalize many things which are usually better treated as social issues or problems, we need to dampen down our own tendency toward theocratic criminalization.

Need I add that I am not in any way equating homosexuality with bestiality? I have written a book that emphasizes how we must resist simplistically lumping different forms of sexuality together. All I am saying is that we do need to compare and question the way in which various forms of unconventional sexuality are treated by the law – including unconventional aspects of heterosexuality! Of course, it pains us to see ourselves prejudicially compared with Santorum's list or with bestiality, necrophilia, and pedophilia. However, we have to bite the bullet and seize any opportunity to highlight the distinction between various forms of unconventional behavior. Who would want to admit that they don't know how to distinguish between people who are merely different and folks whose unconventionalities involve truly of-

fensive, disturbed, or sometimes (as in cases of pedophilia) truly criminal behavior. (While cats and dogs are both pets, we immediately teach young children that they are not the same animal.)

As we expand the LGBTQ acronym we often debate among ourselves whether we defeat our own cause by demanding too much all at once or by appearing to encourage "far out" behavior. Should we liberate people one group at a time – gradually? Perhaps. But since "an injustice to one is an injustice to all" is not also possible that declaring common cause with other unconventional sexual minorities – at least on the issue of criminalization – will strengthen rather than weaken our movement?

I have put forward these thoughts primarily as questions rather than assertions because positive dialogue is more likely to occur when we wonder and ponder rather than insist. ▼

Guest Opinion

Carl L. Jech, Th. M. Harvard, is an instructor in humanities at DeAnza College and College of Marin and the author of the recently published book *Will the Gay Issue Go Away?*

LETTERS

Davis's 'unparalleled' gay record

While the *Bay Area Reporter* (May 8 editorial, "Davis's murky gay record") is entitled to disagree with Governor Gray Davis's parole decisions, it is outrageous of the paper to suggest that those decisions reflect a bias against gays, or to insinuate that the governor has been anything but staunch in his support of gay rights.

The governor's gay rights record is virtually unparalleled. Governor Davis has established the nation's first domestic partners registration program. He ended the statewide ban on adoption by unmarried couples. He extended health benefits to domestic partners of state employees. Under this legislation registered domestic partners in California are able to make medical decisions for a partner. They may use sick leave to care for a partner, require HMOs to offer coverage to a partner, adopt, using the step-parent adoption process, and recover damages for the wrong-felid death of a partner.

He signed into law AB1001, the Fair Employment and Housing Act section that prohibits discrimination in employment and housing on the basis of sexual orientation, ending a 20-year battle. He ended the court-sanctioned practice of discrimination against gays and lesbians during jury selection. He signed legislation to protect schoolchildren from discrimination.

The governor has made the nation's toughest hate crime laws — including crimes based on sexual orientation — even tougher by making hate-motivated murder punishable by the maximum penalties available under the law — life imprisonment and the death penalty.

He strongly opposed Proposition 22, the so-called Knight initiative, which would have held that "...only marriage between a man and a woman is valid..." No other sitting governor in California took steps even a fraction as bold to protect and extend the rights of gays and lesbians. That record speaks for itself.

As to parole, Governor Davis rightly imposes a high standard in determining whether those convicted of murder are to be paroled back into society. The governor closely examines each case individually and gives the appropriate weight to all factors relating to each potential parolee. The governor considers all positive and negative factors when considering the release of an inmate. The prime concern is over whether the prisoner's release could create more victims.

Steven Maviglio
Press Secretary to Governor Gray Davis
Sacramento, California

Need for meth Web site

Thank you so much for your recent article on *tweaker.org* ("Web site provides resources for crystal users," May 22). As most know, crystal meth is widespread in our community. However, its impact on our lives is not often discussed, even among friends. *Tweaker.org* is the Stonewall Project's attempt to both promote discussion of our speed use and increase knowledge about this drug. Too many of us do crystal without any idea of what the drug actually is, what it does to us, or what the consequences could be for our mind, body, and spirit.

We recognize that many gay and bi men use crystal and do not see it as a problem. Yet they may need information in order to minimize the harms that meth can cause. At the same time, we all know that many have gone off the deep end with speed and need help. We also provide this on the Web site. For anyone who is thinking of trying crystal, anyone who uses it, and anyone who feels that the party is far past being fun, please check out our site — www.tweaker.org.

There are, however, a few corrections that need to be made. First, it's important to acknowledge the great work of the Stop AIDS Project who originally created the *tweaker.org* Web site as part of its fabulous Crissy campaign back in 1997. The Stop AIDS Project generously gave Stonewall permission to revive the site after it had gone dormant at the end of the Crissy campaign. Second, the Stonewall Project works specifically with gay and bi men who use crystal. While we recognize many gay men and bi men have problems with alcohol and drugs other than meth, we specifically focus on crystal use because it is so heavily implicated in the rise in HIV infection rates. And third, Stonewall's funding for *tweaker.org* comes not from Ryan White CARE funds, but from the prevention branch of the SFDPH AIDS Office precisely because the use of meth is such a big issue in preventing further HIV infections in our community.

Again, thank you for your coverage of this issue which is so important for our community.

Michael D. Siever, Ph.D.
Program Director
The Stonewall Project
Division of Substance and Addiction Medicine
UCSF Dept. of Psychiatry at San Francisco General Hospital

Meth requires hard-hitting approach

I read your front page report in your recent issue on the crystal meth harm reduction Web site *tweaker.org* with great interest. I am currently visiting San Francisco for several weeks from the United Kingdom where, last November, I launched *lifemeth.com*, which takes a rather more hard-hitting approach to raising awareness of the dangers of crystal meth.

Where sites like *tweaker.org*, as you describe, take a "tongue-in-cheek," partly comical approach to the subject matter, *lifemeth.com* does not shirk from describing the true horror of the blight of crystal meth on our international community.

I have just arrived from Sydney, Australia, where the problem is now reaching epidemic proportions, particularly in the wake of last November's Gay Games, which saw a vast influx of meth into the city.

In contrast to the letters *tweaker.org* has been receiving with regard to its approach, which you highlight, *lifemeth.com* has yet to receive one in condemnation of our approach. It has been described as "scare-mongering" by some, including one leading U.K. magazine, but it is an honest approach that is working.

Lifemeth.com's online surveys show that around 70 percent of visitors are meth users, of whom around a third are empowered by the site to stop using outright, while a further third are inspired to want to stop. Now, that is a result.

A harm reduction approach is fine in many respects, but in the case of crystal meth it is vital that the truth and the severity of the message — however controversial it may appear to some — is heard. Crystal meth is the new gay plague, and no amount of denial of that fact can hide the physiological and psychological devastation and death it is causing in our metropolitan communities all over the world.

Gary Leigh
London, England

City has lost the 'war'

Regarding your article "City unleashes 'war' in letter to Castro" [May 29]: unfortunately letter won. The neighborhood, and most of San Francisco, is an absolute garbage dump.

Brian Geiger
San Francisco

Dean's campaign

Regarding your columnist's recent comment that Dr. Howard Dean is not well-liked by the other Democrats campaigning for the presidential campaign in 2004 ("GOP behind Davis recall," *Our Man Friday*, May 22):

1. First and foremost, this comment can only be a generalization, as different Democrats feel differently.

2. Dr. Dean is the candidate that legitimized civil unions for the queer community in Vermont.

3. Dr. Dean has the best healthcare plan, and the proven success to implement it. The other candidates resent that, not the doctor himself.

4. Dr. Dean would not have voted for the war even if he had been a senator; he made that plain long ago, as he was the first to start campaigning. His stance is popular with Democrats, especially with people of color, women, youth and the "pro-peace internationalists" (as opposed to "antiwar isolationists," as others like to portray them). That is why the other "moderate" Bush-lite candidates, especially, resent him, and they are out of touch with the majority of the Democratic party faithful.

5. Dr. Dean, overall, does not have the slimy record of so many of the moderate, centrist Democrats who have alienated the millions of so-called traditional but really New Democrats who are looking to Dean, precisely because in his state he has done what's right, not what is politically expedient or popular, a la Bush lite.

Virginia Velez
San Francisco

Geoff DeWan
Los Angeles, California

Stop the demonizing

The lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender community in San Francisco is extremely fortunate. Not only do we live in one of the world's most celebrated cities, we are able to be ourselves here. City government has given us all the legal rights it can, continues to expand those rights, and enables us to contribute to its political, economic, cultural, and social life.

Proof of our good fortune can be found in the four leading mayoral candidates. Tom Ammiano is open-

next page ►

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ly gay. Susan Leal is an out lesbian. Angela Alioto is a heterosexual woman with a long history of supporting our community. Gavin Newsom is a straight man with an impeccable record on our issues. That means that regardless of who wins, we won't be harmed.

It is, therefore, troubling when supporters of one candidate demonize another in letters to the *Bay Area Reporter* or on street corners while handing out campaign literature. Partisans of Leal and Ammiano can and should articulate the reasons they believe their candidate is best qualified to be mayor. They need not make their case, however, by attacking our community's longtime allies. As a member of the Board of Supervisors, Alioto supported domestic partner benefits for city employees. Similarly, Supervisor Newsom endorsed expanding those benefits to companies doing business with the city and voted for health and medical benefit for transgender public employees. He has campaigned for openly gay candidates like District 8 Supervisor Bevan Dufty and Assemblyman Mark Leno.

This unfortunate demonizing of our friends began during the 1999 mayoral race, when some members of our community felt compelled to personally attack Willie Brown. It is important to note that Ammiano did not do so. He, like many of us, is well aware that Brown was among the earliest and most effective supporters of lesbian and gay rights. Public officials like him, the late state Senator Milton Marks, U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, and former Mayor Art Agnos were our allies when being so was unpopular and politically risky, even in San Francisco.

Given the prejudice we have faced, our community should rejoice in a campaign where sexual orientation is not a factor and we should not make it one. Neither should socioeconomic class be of concern, since our members cross class lines. Ammiano comes from a working class New Jersey family. Leal is a first generation American Latina. Alioto is the daughter of a former San Francisco mayor and a member of a prominent local family. Newsom is a fifth generation San Franciscan and son of highly regarded judge. Members of our community can identify with any of these backgrounds. But it is what Alioto, Newsom, Leal, and Ammiano have done as adults that should earn our admiration. All four are committed public servants who have served our city and our community well for many years.

Each of us should decide which candidate merits our support and vote accordingly. Our decision should be based on each candidate's track record and positions on issues like the economy, homelessness, housing, and general quality of life for our residents and visitors. If our individual choice is Leal or Ammiano, terrific. If it is Alioto or Newsom, great. That's what democracy is about – the freedom to chose. And qualified members of our community will play important roles in any of these administrations.

So let's not malign longtime friends. Doing so makes us appear ungrateful and discourages new supporters from coming forward to help us advance our causes. Instead, let's celebrate living in San Francisco and knowing that all the leading mayoral candidates have much that is positive to offer our community.

Keith Wade
San Francisco**Stop the avoidance**

Paula Martinac's commentary "Gays behaving badly" [Lesbian Notions, May 22] cuts to the heart of inquiries that we in the LGBT community should be making these days. Ms. Martinac illustrates our tendency to "stick our heads in the sand" when bad behavior within our community comes to light. Does such avoidance really provide cover from our right-wing critics? Does it really advance the LGBT cause for equality?

The fact is that many of us (especially in the Bay Area) live in a world where basic LGBT civil rights are widely regarded as justified. What is the best response to bad behavior among LGBT members in these relatively new conditions? We might come close to an answer by considering a case in which members of our community are both perpetrator and victim. The increase in same-sex harassment claims in the work place has been on the rise over the last few years. What will be our response to this phenomenon?

The black community reluctantly faced the same question over a decade ago. At that time, Anita Hill testified about the abuse that she had suffered while employed under (the future) Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. Many in the black establishment of the time remained silent or even joined with the white establishment in "circling the wagons" around Thomas. To this day, the reaction to Ms. Hill's testimony is but a footnote on the career of the Supreme Court justice. At the same time, Ms. Hill lives in relative obscurity with the lingering stigma of doubt about her honesty.

Today, out lesbians and gays hold positions of authority in many large public and private institutions.

As Ms. Martinac suggests, some are good, some are bad, and all are human. Surely the individuals that have brought the current same-sex harassment claims also fall into these categories. In the real world of real human beings, the stress of our private lives can find its way into any work place. Good and bad employees of any sexual orientation are coupled with stressed managers of any orientation and harassment happens.

The question is not whether same-sex harassment exists. It surely exists. But the question is whether, as witnesses of this harassment, we are obliged to be silent. Worse yet, are we expected to participate in rendering the accusers in same-sex harassment cases as liars in order to continue the advance of the powerful among us? These are questions that Ms. Martinac's commentary would pose to those of us who participate in the daily life of America's private and public organizations, to those of us that are in a position to speak up.

Ten years ago Clarence Thomas took his seat as the only black Supreme Court justice in the land. We might only imagine the impact on the advance of black civil rights if Ms. Hill's testimony had been taken seriously – if bad behavior had been noticed by the black establishment – and someone else had taken that seat. Let's hope that the LGBT community can learn from this example.

Joe Foster
San Francisco**Web site needed**

Recently I was working on sending off an e-mail to alert people about the trial of the people who allegedly assaulted community members outside Studio ZTV. I wanted to check my facts in a story in the *B.A.R.* by Zak Szymanski. However, I didn't have a copy of that issue of the paper at hand. Since the *B.A.R.* doesn't have a Web site and it was nighttime so I couldn't go to the public library or to the *B.A.R.* office to look at back issues, I was out of luck.

At one point, the *B.A.R.* did have a Web site which at least had the current issue's text online, which was somewhat useful – although there was no archive of back issues. A couple of *B.A.R.* writers have past articles they've written on their own Web sites.

There are many stories that are reported in the LGBT press that are never covered in other newspapers. None of the LGBT papers in town has a Web site. Most LGBT papers in other cities have Web sites. Especially in San Francisco, which has an even higher than average use of the Internet, it seems like a paper should have a Web site. With all the unemployed dot-commers hereabouts, surely someone could be found to do it. Advertising revenue from the Web site, perhaps including online personal ads or other features, could probably cover the costs.

Please consider implementing a Web site as soon as possible.

Larry-bob Roberts
San Francisco**Growing communities**

Gwen Smith writes wistfully of the need for community among myriad TG individuals ("Communing with the community," *Transmissions*, May 29). A cartoonist neatly lances snobbery among Priders. Queer Dems emphasize their shared ideals, despite years of bitter rivalry. (All in *B.A.R.*'s May 29 issue.)

As an independent thinker, I fit poorly into any group, yet I still join Lambda Legal, the LGBT Community Center, Out Against War, ACLU, etc. Growing queer communities and networks will be hard, but well worth sweating for.

Tortuga Bi Liberty
San Francisco**An ageist put-down**

Stop AIDS, New Leaf, Midlife Gay Men, and the San Francisco Prime Timers persist in sponsoring an annual "Geezers Ball."

Doubtless those involved believe "geezer" to be a benevolent classification – possibly quaint, or charming, or endearing – and it may be wondered if any of them have trouble checking the meaning of the word. Here are three definitions from authoritative sources: *Random House Unabridged Dictionary*: geezer n. Slang, an odd or eccentric man: the old geezer who sells shoelaces on the corner; *Random House Historical Dictionary Of American Slang*: geezer, n. 1.a. an offensive or dull witted old person, esp. a man [The only sense now in common use in U.S.]; *Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary Unabridged*: geezer, n. an eccentric old man, or, rarely, woman [Slang].

Men over 40 and of any persuasion who supinely accept this ageist put-down as descriptive of themselves are in need of balls.

Stan Farwig
Concord, California

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POLITICS

The war in Iraq enriches Halliburton

by Wayne Friday

adam Hussein is still on the loose, the "vast storage of weapons of mass destruction" that **George W. Bush** used as the chief reason for attacking Iraq still haven't been found (six weeks after Bush declared the war over), the nation of 20 million is heavily in ruins, some 150 Americans lost their lives in the war, and still others are losing their lives almost daily by pro-Saddam loyalists as we continue to play police in a nation that's own citizens don't want us there.

Iraq, crushed by allied bombs, is now in need of billions of dollars in reconstruction work as we try to bring some sense of normalcy in that country, and it shouldn't be forgotten that the war itself was planned and executed because Bush & Company was sure that Hussein, with his weapons of mass destruction, presented "imminent danger" to America and her allies. That's all history, however, and it is now time to start spending the billions needed to help put Iraq back together. Enter Halliburton Company, the Houston-based oil field services and construction firm that had Vice President **Dick Cheney** as its chief executive officer until it paid him off at a reported \$20 million which freed him up to join the Bush presidential ticket in 2000.

It was announced last week that the Army has quietly given a Halliburton subsidiary more than \$425 million in troop-support work, most of it related to the Iraq war, under a contract that Cheney's former company won in 2001, long after the former CEO became vice president of the United States. The new work is in addition to the \$71 million that Halliburton's subsidiary, Kellogg Brown & Root, has received from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in contract to repair and operate oil wells in Iraq, according to reports.

Rather than put the Iraq post-war contracts up for bidding, the Bush administration has used the 2001 Halliburton contract to place the various work orders needed in Iraq and the practice is prompting criticism from Democrats and others that Cheney's former company is receiving favored treatment.

Halliburton spokeswoman **Wendy Hall** said last week that "any allegation that this contract is set up to encourage unwarranted spending is unfounded and untrue; the vice president has nothing to do with the awarding of the contract, the bidding process or task orders." Of course not, but, hell, we already knew that.

Meanwhile, Halliburton last week agreed to pay \$6 million to settle 20 shareholder lawsuits that accused it of using deceptive accounting practices while Cheney led the company. The lawsuits challenged the way that the company counted revenue from cost overruns and change orders on long-term fixed-price construction projects. Halliburton did not admit wrongdoing in the settlement.

The recently announced settlement follows a December deal under which Halliburton agreed

to pay about \$4 billion in cash and stock to resolve 300,000 asbestos claims and head off future cases. Last week's announcement did not resolve all of Halliburton's legal challenges, however. Judicial Watch, a government watchdog group, said its lawsuits against Cheney and the company was not affected. The group accuses the company of defrauding investors by changing accounting methods. Cheney was chief executive officer of Halliburton from 1995 until August 2000.

No one is Washington doubts that Halliburton will be getting plenty of contracts from the U.S. government in the future, and you gotta agree, this is a great country we live in.

Politics and people

Feinstein: "Don't recall Gray Davis": U.S. Senator **Dianne Feinstein** (D-California) is strongly urging Californians to reject a Republican-led drive to recall Governor Gray Davis (D), calling it "misguided" and a huge waste of California taxpayers' money. "I believe a recall election can be appropriate when serious malfeasance and corruption is found," Feinstein wrote last week in an opinion piece distributed to newspapers throughout the state.

"But I don't believe it is right to overturn the results of an election simply because of political differences." Feinstein, who polls as the best-known and most popular politician in the state, asked voters to say no if asked to sign the petitions being circulated by Republicans that could place the recall on a ballot. A special election could cost taxpayers \$25 to \$35 million at a time when state finances are strapped.

As to whether the popular senator would rule herself out as a replacement if recall proponents manage to qualify for the ballot, Feinstein's spokesman, **Howard Gantman**, brushed aside the question by saying, "Senator Feinstein does not choose to even address hypotheticals."

My reply to the reader who wrote last week commenting on the "welcome and badly needed" Bush \$350 billion tax cut — think about this: **Warren Buffett**,

the second richest man in the world, calls the Bush tax cut "class warfare" on behalf of the rich, and the guy sure as hell outta know.

Ohio Congressman **Dennis Kucinich**, a 2004 Democratic presidential candidate, made plenty of new friends in the Bay Area last week by declaring that if he is ever elected president he would issue an executive order supporting the use of medical marijuana "as an act of compassion and expression of humanity." Kucinich, a long shot at best for the Democratic nomination, is the only one of the nine Democratic presidential candidates to come out in favor of legalizing marijuana for medical purposes. Such use is legal in California and eight other states, but federal law prohibits use of marijuana for any purpose (and would someone send this one to Dr. **Howard Dean**, please.)

The city of Davis, California is

now one of six cities in the state to formally ask Governor Davis and the Legislature to enact legislation allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry. In a move last week, the Davis City Council adopted a resolution asking the governor and lawmakers to remove references to sex and gender as requirements for a civil marriage license.

This is only a coincidence, I'm sure, but actor **Richard Chamberlain**, 69, best known for his 1961-1966 hit TV series *Dr. Kildare*, told an NBC *Dateline* audience Sunday that he was finally

coming out of the closet and admitting his homosexuality because "I'm not a romantic leading man anymore, so I don't need to nurture that public image any longer." The fact that Chamberlain's autobiography, *Shattered Love*, is currently being released, is, as I said, only a coincidence.

City Hall wags think that District 7 Supervisor **Tony Hall** would be well advised to forget his off-the-wall idea of running for mayor and concentrate on his re-election next year; former Supervisor **Annemarie Conroy** is being urged by many to take on "Landslide Tony" and what an improvement that would be.

Congratulations to **Morgan Gorro**, the newly-elected president of the San Francisco Civil Service Commission.

S.F. Log Cabin Republicans tell me that San Diego's popular District Attorney **Bonnie Dumanis**, a lesbian Republican, will ride in San Francisco's Pride Parade with her significant other as well as openly gay councilman **Greg Grandrud** from the city of Carpinteria, and we're happy to have them here.

California Lieutenant Governor **Cruz Bustamante** has endorsed U.S. Senator **Joe Lieberman** (D-Connecticut) for president; California lieutenant governors rarely have political coattails, but the Lieberman campaign can be expected to trumpet the Bustamante endorsement in a voter-rich state where Latinos make up a growing share of the electorate.

The Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club is co-sponsoring the Democrat's United for Victory party on Saturday June 14, 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Plumbers Union Hall, 1621 Market Street, with Senator **Barbara Boxer** as the featured speaker (415-707-2010 for fix and info).

And friends of Sheriff **Mike Hennessy** are holding a fundraiser/reception for the popular lawman on June 18, 6-9 p.m., at Acme Chophouse, 24 Willie Mays Plaza (at Pier Bell Park) \$150; (415) 928-2992 for info.

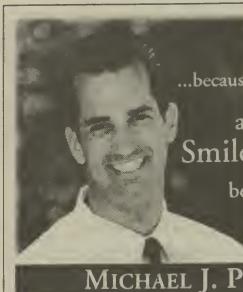
Texas Governor **Rick Perry**, a Republican, last week signed legislation that will prevent Texas from legally recognizing same-sex unions formed in other states. Supporters call it the Defense of Marriage Act; gay rights advocates oppose it.

I'm not sure how many of my readers would actually agree with him, but *Sacramento Bee* political columnist **Dan Walters** wrote a piece recently entitled: "Tale of

next page ▶



Our Man Friday



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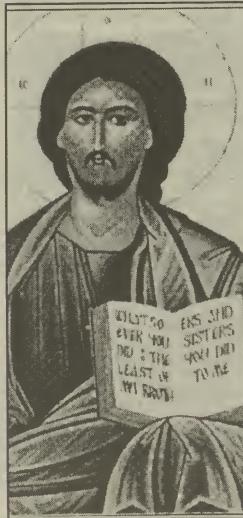
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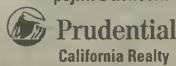
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Not choosing children

by Paula Martinac

Recently, I received a direct-mail brochure from a lesbian cruise company informing me that I had been randomly selected to win a "kids-under-10-go-free" vacation to Florida. This was the first parent-directed pitch I'd ever received from a lesbian-run business, and it seemed like an important sign of the times.

Granted, it was just a sales piece from a company that seems to have correctly pinpointed lesbian moms as a hot new market. They may have even gotten requests from dykes with tykes for such a vacation package. But it made me wonder, too, if there's been so much hype in recent years about our right to parent that it's now assumed most lesbians either have children or aspire to — even though many of us don't.

A colleague of mine has quipped that, when she was coming out in the 1970s, the best things about being a lesbian were that (1) you didn't have to get married and (2) you didn't have to have kids. Ironically, 30 years later, marriage and parenting rights — which often go hand in hand — have become two of the top priorities of the LGBT movement.

Of course, lesbians were moms long before the current baby boom, but our kids tended to be from past heterosexual relationships. What's notable these days is that so many single and coupled lesbians are choosing to have children biologically or to adopt. Now there's an array of films, self-help books, and memoirs about lesbian motherhood; the most visible lesbians on TV — Melanie and Lindsay on *Queer as Folk* — have a baby; and Rosie O'Donnell framed her coming out last year in the context of being a mom. Adoption and foster parenting are open to us in



Christine Smith

most places, and eight states permit second-parent adoption, too. And the easier it becomes for us to parent openly, the more we do so; according to data recently released from the 2000 U.S.

Census, about one-third of all female-partner households are raising children.

Truly, there's a revolution in parenting going on, one that deserves the unqualified support our community has given it. Lesbian parents may, in fact, hold

an important key to progressive social reform. The mere visibility of out lesbian mothers helps create change in school districts and neighborhoods. Consider, too, a future generation of people raised by lesbian mothers who taught them the value of difference. Some studies even suggest that children of lesbian moms may grow up with fewer gender-role hang-ups.

But in our efforts to stand behind the many lesbian moms among us, I'm concerned that we may gradually begin to privilege one way of being a lesbian over another. Specifically, we may lose sight of the fact that women — lesbian or straight — who choose not to have children are also revolutionaries.

Societal pressure on women to

L.A. has become more leftward. Interesting.

And finally, our own Assemblyman **Mark Leno** (D-San Francisco) continues to gain both clout and respect in Sacramento as a hard-working legislator and trusted Democratic Party loyalist. Leno, who chairs the Assembly's Public Safety Committee, prompts the "Quote of the Week" from Assembly Speaker **Herb**

Wesson (D-Los Angeles), who told a San Francisco crowd recently: "Mark Leno never ceases to amaze; I've elevated Mark to leadership within the Democratic caucus [and] he's one of the few members that I sit down with every week and seek their advice. You can know this man works harder than the average assembly-member."

And how was your week? ▼

Our Man Friday

◀ page 9

two cities: One drifting to starboard, the other to port" about San Francisco and Los Angeles, suggesting that San Francisco politics have been drifting rightward while the recent election of liberal council members and legislators from Los Angeles indicate

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HISTORY LESSON

Was Alexander the Great gay?

by Liz Highleyman

June 323 B.C. (2326 years ago this month): Alexander the Great dies in Babylon.

Alexander the Great, who in the fourth century B.C. conquered most of the known world of his day, is regarded as one of the greatest military leaders of all time. Although he lived long before the introduction of modern notions of gay or bisexual identity, Alexander's nearly lifelong intimate relationship with his companion Hephaestion has made him a legend among LGBT people.

Alexander was born in 356 B.C. in Macedonia, the son of King Philip II and Princess Olympias. With renowned philosopher Aristotle as their tutor, Alexander and his boyhood friend Hephaestion, one of the king's pages, received a classical education in science, literature, and the arts. They were particularly inspired by Homer's *Iliad* and likened themselves to the mythical friends Achilles and Patroclus.

In Alexander's day, homoerotic relationships between adult men and male youths were widely accepted in Greece and Macedonia. But Alexander and Hephaestion, near equals in age, were unusual in that they maintained their relationship throughout their adult lives. According to historian Jeanne Reames-Zimmerman, their intense emotional affinity likely would have been more salient to them than any physical connection: Alexander

referred to Hephaestion not as a lover (*eromenos*) but as "Alexander's friend" (*philalexandros*).

When Alexander was 20, his father was assassinated by Pausanias, a bodyguard who was also one of the king's male lovers. Alexander ascended to the throne and began extending his domain. His most formidable enemy was King Darius of Persia. Though outnumbered, Alexander defeated Darius' armies three times, finally vanquishing his rival and conquering the Persian capital. In just over 10 years he would expand his realm as far as Egypt, Central Asia, and Northern India.

Alexander established his kingdom in Persia and adopted Eastern manners and dress. In this era, most Greek and Macedonian men who had male lovers also had wives and children, and Alexander was no exception. He, in fact, took two wives, the second of whom was Barsine, Darius's daughter. Alexander also had one child, a son born after his death. Hephaestion – now serving as Alexander's chiliarch, or second-in-command and personal adviser – married Barsine's sister. As spoils of his conquest, Alexander also acquired Bagoas, Darius's beautiful Persian eunuch dancing boy, with whom Alexander had a relationship typical of those of the men and boys of his day.

Despite his successes, Alexander's capriciousness and ego would prove his undoing. Although often described as loyal and generous, the king was also a heavy drinker and prone to outbursts of temper, and he increasingly came to regard himself as a god. Having been told by a famed oracle in Egypt that he was the son of the sun god Amon-Ra, Alexander compared his accomplishments to those of Hercules and dressed in godlike accoutrements (Amon-Ra's horns, Hermes's winged sandals), but his demand that his subjects prostrate themselves before him garnered increasing resentment.

In the fall of 324 B.C., Hephaestion fell ill with a fever and died. His death left Alexander despondent. It is said that Alexander lay upon his friend's body for a day



Bust of Alexander the Great

and a night until he was dragged away; he then remained mute and fasted for another three days. According to the ancient Greek historian Aelian, Alexander "shone off his own hair, as in Homeric grief, and behaved like the Achilles of Homer ... even in his clothing he departed from ordinary custom, and gave himself up to his mood, his love, and his tears."

Alexander reportedly said, "I would rather live a short life of glory than a long one of obscurity," and such was to be his fate. The summer after Hephaestion's death, Alexander himself became ill with a fever and died in Babylon in June 323 B.C. While some early historians suspected that the king had been poisoned, most today believe he died of malaria, or perhaps typhoid fever. But it is not unlikely that – as with many long-term spouses – grief over his friend's death speeded Alexander's demise. ▶

Liz Highleyman can be reached care of this publication or at PastOut@black-rose.com.



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Rosenthal gets token sentence

by Liz Highleyman

In a stunning verdict Wednesday, June 4, federal Judge Charles Breyer sentenced medical marijuana grower Ed Rosenthal to one day in federal prison. With time served, Rosenthal will not have to spend any additional time in custody, but will remain on probation for three years.

Rosenthal, a well-known author and cannabis expert, was deputized by the city of Oakland to grow marijuana for local patients under the auspices of Proposition 215, California's 1996 Compassionate Use Act. In late January, he was convicted on three federal cultivation counts stemming from a February 2002 arrest.

In the days following the trial, a majority of jurors denounced the verdict, saying they had not been permitted to hear evidence about the medical aspects of the case or that Rosenthal believed he was acting legally in accordance with local ordinance and state law. On May 16, Breyer denied Rosenthal's motion for a new trial.

Breyer's announcement Wednesday morning elicited tears and cheers from the packed courtroom and the large crowd of Rosenthal's supporters waiting outside. Rosenthal, 58, could have received as many as 85 years in federal prison, although the prosecutor had agreed to settle for 21

months, the amount recommended by federal probation officials.

"This verdict is incredible," said former juror Pamela Clarkowski. "It puts my faith back in the justice system."

But while his supporters and attorneys were jubilant, Rosenthal himself expressed anger at the sentence and at the system that put him through the year-and-a-half ordeal.

"While I'm happy I got just one day, it's one day too many," he said.

Rosenthal went further, calling for the abolition of all laws against marijuana. "The federal government makes no distinction between medical and recreational use. They're right. All marijuana should be legal. There should be no time, no criminal penalties for marijuana at all."

Although Breyer took pains to make clear that his sentencing decision was specific to this case and did not imply that municipal authorities may authorize cannabis



Jane and Ed Rosenthal leave court

cultivation, medical marijuana advocates nationwide are seeking a precedent in Rosenthal's case.

"Judge Breyer spoke volumes about where this issue is headed," said Robert Eye, one of Rosenthal's attorneys.

"This is the beginning of the end of federal attacks on medical marijuana," said Steph Sherer of Americans for Safe Access, an advocacy group spearheading the fight for medical cannabis law reform.

Despite his short sentence, Rosenthal still plans to appeal his conviction, stating, "Judge Breyer did me no favors. He made me a felon because he did not allow the jury to hear the whole story." ▼

TARC wins \$150K for expanded services

by Zak Szymanski

The Johnson & Johnson Company recently flew representatives from the Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center to Washington, D.C., where they were treated to dinner at the Smithsonian and presented with a Tiffany crystal statue.

The occasion? TARC was one of just six awardees of a Johnson & Johnson grant that recognizes organizations for their ongoing commitment to providing care to medically underserved persons.

The \$150,000 in grant money will be awarded in two lump sums (TARC has already received the first \$75,000) and will be used to expand TARC's mobile health services, particularly its weekend hours in order to give clients access to antiretroviral and psychotropic medications on a daily basis.

TARC plans to hire a team comprised of a nurse and a case manager to conduct outreach to clients needing weekend access to medications, with the goal of lessening

HIV/AIDS disease progression.

"The money will allow us to reach one of our biggest goals. We know that for individuals who are homeless, their needs don't stop on the weekend," Tracy Brown, TARC's executive director, told the Bay Area Reporter. "People on medications need daily observed therapy and access to their pills. A lot of psychotropic drugs, for instance, come in such a strength that you don't want to hand somebody a weekend's worth, which could be very dangerous. So this is way to stabilize people and hopefully give them the option to get off the street."

The Johnson & Johnson Community Health Care Program is designed specifically to help community-based organizations that reach low-income and minority populations, often with limited resources. More than 400 organizations applied for the grant, said Brown, making TARC's achievement even more noteworthy.

"We were thrilled," said Brown, adding that TARC has applied for the grant in the past. "We think this is a pretty big deal." ▼



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COMMUNITY NEWS

GLAAD raises big bucks at Media Awards

by Joe Dignan

As each of the 824 attendees at the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation's 14th annual black-tie Media Awards event left the St. Francis Hotel on Saturday, May 31, they were handed a gift bag emblazoned with the logo of the event's "founding sponsor," Absolut vodka. Inside were dozens of samples of tooth whitener; a product called Cover Blend, which promises that it corrects skin flaws; guide books to both San Francisco and Los Angeles; a beautiful leather-bound ("not pleather," said the volunteer handing them out) sketch book stamped with the Range Rover logo; a presentation folder about the cars; a two-for-one coupon offer for tickets to the San Francisco Opera; a light-up pen from Avis; a couple of music CDs; and an armload of magazines including *Out's* "Hot" issue, listing the 79 "people, places, and things that turn us on right this minute."

What's all that got to do with GLAAD's mission — to encourage fair and accurate representation of LGBT people in the media?

According to GLAAD Executive Director Joan Garry, it's about the money. The organization raises, she said, about \$2.5 million of its \$5.5 million annual budget during the award events that take place in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and New York City.

Garry said that GLAAD is in a unique position to "leverage the power of celebrity" to attract people to its events. This year's attendees rubbed elbows with actress Stockard Channing and newly out actor and author B.D. Wong, who each picked up special awards, rotund comic Bruce Vilanch, ("I'm staying at the super-chic Clift Hotel," he said, "and I'm the only round thing in the room"), *Baywatch's* Pamela Anderson, and Scott Lowell from Showtime's *Queer as Folk*.

GLAAD raffled off a \$12,500 lease for a new Jaguar and a \$12,000 trip to South Africa. Two donors, Leslie Sosnick and Mark Crumpacker, paid \$16,000 each for a chance to appear in walk-on parts on NBC's hit sit-com *Will & Grace* — even with the provision that their 15 seconds of fame might end up on the cutting room floor.



B.D. Wong and Stockard Channing

But the big news was a surprise \$500,000 challenge grant from longtime benefactor Terry Watanabe.

The organization uses the money to pay a staff of 35 — based in New York and Los Angeles — to keep an eye on America's media and to be "vigilant," said attendee, supporter, and openly gay California Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco), "to make sure that we are presented in a fair and accurate way."

"It wasn't an accident," Garry said, when last September the *New York Times* started publishing same-sex union announcements. GLAAD had met with the *Times'* editorial board last July, and then expanded their horizons to papers across the country. The current count of mainstream papers that will take the announcements is at about 200. The *Bay Area Reporter* also runs same-sex union announcements. ▼

GLAAD can, through its influence in the media, change the perceptions of gay and lesbian people in places where there are no grassroots organizing efforts for equality.

Last year, during the Catholic Church's child sex abuse crisis, when the Vatican attempted to turn attention away from its structural problems by lashing out at gay priests, GLAAD succeeded in turning focus back to the church by arming reporters with the facts that pedophilia and homosexuality are not linked, and that many devout Catholics are gay.

This year GLAAD has spent four months staunching the flow of invective from MSNBC talk

show host Michael Savage.

What's next on GLAAD's radar? Local and regional media, especially Spanish language media. [The B.A.R. recently reported on GLAAD's new people of color project.] Equality California Executive Director Geoff Kors suggested that the effort could have a big effect on the swing votes of California's fence-sitting Central Valley legislators, in heavily Spanish-speaking districts, in the ongoing battle over gay rights legislation in Sacramento.

And GLAAD did give out awards last Saturday. Most of the major awards for drama are handed out in New York and the major films are honored in Los Angeles. San Francisco's honorees were *Kissing Jessica Stein* for outstanding film — limited release. Outstanding digital journalism, overall coverage, went to Newsweek.MSNBC.com. The award was presented by San Francisco's Webby Awards founder, Tiffany Shlain, who said that Internet journalism is becoming more and more important as the government becomes more and more conservative. The award for outstanding digital journalism article went to "Fired for Being Gay" by Jennifer Barrett on Newsweek.MSNBC.com, and the award for outstanding comic book went to *Green Lantern* (DC Comics). ▼

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Calling all models: Falcon wants you

by Cynthia Laird

Gay men who have dreamed of becoming a model have their chance later this month to see if they have what it takes to be signed by one of the leading male film studios.

Falcon Studios has teamed up with the Castro Gulch and other sponsors in a model search event that kicks off Pride weekend on Friday, June 27 at the Castro Gulch store. Falcon exclusives Matthew Rush, Josh Weston, Andrew Phillips, and others will be joined by famed diva/director Chi Chi LaRue for the daylong event that, according to Gulch district manager Jim Lukes, is not a contest, but rather, an opportunity for men to try to snag a Falcon contract to make a movie.

"If 40 guys show up and they're hot and Falcon wants them, they'll sign them," Lukes told the Bay Area Reporter. "This is a model search, not a model contest."

"Everyone who gets a contract is a winner in the sense that he won a contract," added Lukes.

Lukes is excited about the upcoming model search. And if you're not into becoming a model and just want to check out the action, that's okay too. The store, located at 2352 Market Street in the Castro, will feature Falcon DVDs, videos, toys, and accessories at the

best available prices, he said.

"There will be lots of new titles for your viewing pleasure, and free goodie gift bags for every person attending the event, including gallons of free lube samples from System JO Lubricant," Lukes stated in a news release.

System JO Lubricant is one of the sponsors of the event, along with the B.A.R.

Additionally, DJs from the dance station 92.7 Party will be spinning all day, and Chi Chi LaRue will also crown the Mr. Gulch and Mr. M4M4SEX contest winner. Participants who wish to be considered for the Mr. Gulch title should visit Folsom Gulch at 947 Folsom Street for more details.

The Cafe bar, another sponsor, will host a public Pride kick-off party Friday night after the search that will also feature Chi Chi LaRue and Falcon models. Lukes said the Gulch decided to co-create the event as a way to promote the store and its products.

"It's Falcon's biggest event and that's why we're doing co-branding at the store. That's the Gulch's part of it," Lukes said.

On Sunday, June 29, Falcon models, the Gulch, Chi Chi LaRue, and model winners will be in the Pride Parade and will have a booth at the Pride festival—near the main stage—where several

popular models are expected to be on hand for free autographs.

The model search takes place June 27, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Castro Gulch. Look for the giant banner of Matthew Rush, the Falcon logo, and the red carpet leading into the store. The June 29 booth at Pride will be open from 1-7 p.m. For more information, visit www.falconstudios.com/sfgulch or www.sfgulch.com. ▼



Falcon's Matthew Rush will be on hand for the June 27 model search.

Falcon Studios

Night owls needed for community service

by Zak Szymanski

Summer is traditionally not the time to make serious commitments to anything, but San Francisco's national AIDS/HIV/Hepatitis-C Nightline wants community members to know that volunteering a few hours a week will be well worth it.

The nightline—sponsored by San Francisco Suicide Prevention—needs good, compassionate listeners to provide emotional support, crisis counseling, and basic information to callers with HIV or hepatitis C concerns. Training for phone counselors begins in mid-June and runs three hours a week for six weeks. Volunteers are then asked to commit to three shifts a month of four hours each.

"As many people as we can get would be great," said Katie Williams, the nightline's volunteer coordinator. "While we are always looking for volunteers, summer in particular is a hard time to recruit. We have a great group of dedicated volunteers, but people go on vacation, go back to school, or get

over-committed."

Williams emphasized that volunteers are able to receive experiences at the nightline not always available through other organizations.

"Volunteers here make direct connections with many different types of people; they may talk to a homeless person in New York who they never would have talked to in their life, or to a teenager in Southern California who has just been kicked out of the house by his parents," said Williams. "This is also a great opportunity for people thinking about counseling careers or social work. It's wonderful experience."

The nightline is located in a confidential, central downtown location which will be disclosed to interested volunteers after an interview process.

The only program of its kind in the country, nightline answers over 900 calls a month, from all areas of the United States. It is open from 5 p.m. to 5 a.m. Pacific Time, when most other agencies and hotlines are closed. Volunteers focus on caller emotions, risk management, and psycho/social issues. To become a nightline volunteer, call (415) 984-1902. ▼

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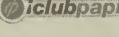
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Tobacco

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1990 internal memo from a Philip Morris official. The company, at first adopting a "low profile" in the wake of the controversy, eventually took steps to try to quell the boycott.

Offen and his co-researchers found that ultimately, the boycott worked to Philip Morris' advantage. In 1991, in exchange for the boycott's end, the company agreed to financially support groups fighting HIV/AIDS. But the company never did have to sever its relationship to Helms.

"Through corporate philanthropy," the UCSF report concluded, "Philip Morris gained entry to the LGBT market without appearing gay friendly."

Offen said the Philip Morris tactic of appealing to one segment of a community – in this case, activists who decided that keeping their friends alive was the most important goal – is a standard method of corporate exploitation.

In the end, boycott leaders were willing to give up the demand to drop ties to Jesse Helms because Philip Morris was pouring funds into HIV/AIDS," said Offen. "The company was able to say, 'Look, we're good guys. We give money to fight AIDS.' But when companies give money to marginalized communities, groups get dependent on that money, and there's going to be very little opposition, and almost no questions raised about the health hazards of smoking."

"It makes us ripe pickings," said Offen, "for the likes of a multibillion dollar industry."

UCSF's other report, "The Out-

ing of Philip Morris," which appears in the June issue of *American Journal of Public Health*, details what happened when Philip Morris became the first major tobacco company to advertise in the gay press.

According to researchers Elizabeth Smith, Ph.D., and Ruth Malone, internal documents from 1992 show that the company decided the gay press provided an opportunity to "own the market" and "achieve exclusivity" in the community. Promoting a Benson & Hedges brand extension, the company bought space in *Genre* magazine, a gay publication considered less political and more lifestyle oriented.

informed choices as other adults," was a Philip Morris statement.

The company then reportedly made donations to the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation and referred reporters' phone calls to that organization.

"Philip Morris wanted to have it both ways," said UCSF's Smith. "The company was undermining gay men's health by selling them a lethal product, then trying to stay in the closet about the relationship."

Brendan McCormick, a spokesman for Philip Morris USA, told the B.A.R. that advertising in *Genre* was motivated by the fact that the magazine had "a high audience of young men who we

"Philip Morris gained entry to the LGBT market without appearing gay friendly."

believed would be interested in our marketing message."

Philip Morris also continued to run ads in similar publications for many years, he said, although in trying to advertise responsibly, its criteria changed to exclude publications with a high percentage of under-18 readers.

"The last point worth mentioning," said McCormick, "is that we continue to support efforts to educate the public about health risks associated with smoking."

Malone and Smith concluded that because the tobacco industry's relationship to the gay community is relatively undeveloped, antismoking and health advocates may have an opportunity for early intervention.

The company's strategy for dealing with the media blitz, said UCSF researchers, was to "deny, attack, and co-opt." Although claiming that it did not target gays, the company also emphasized that anyone upset with advertisements targeting gays was essentially homophobic.

"Anyone who believes that members of minority groups are more influenced by ads than other people is really saying that they are not as capable of making rational

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On Tuesday, June 10, come to City Hall for a rally to protect people with HIV and AIDS. Then, join other concerned citizens as we present our views to the Board of Supervisors. Whether or not you can make it, stop the cuts by contacting your Supervisor today.

Find more information about who to contact and send your Supervisor an email at
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Details and updates about the June 10 events are on the website or at (415) 674-4747.

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Tom Ammiano, District 9	(415) 554-5144
Sophie Maxwell, District 10	(415) 554-7670
Gerardo Sandoval, District 11	(415) 554-6975



Tom Coates

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thing I love. I want to bring new people into the field and inspire them."

Coates, who is HIV-positive, said his decision was also prompted by his partner, Robert DuWors, being offered the position of deputy director of the Comprehensive Cancer Center at UCLA. DuWors has been an associate director of the UCSF Comprehensive Cancer Center. Coates, who has a Ph.D. in psychology, will join his partner as a professor in the division of infectious diseases at UCLA Medical Center.

Local reaction

Colleagues in San Francisco said Coates will be sorely missed.

"Under the tenure of Tom Coates, UCSF's AIDS Research Institute became an internationally recognized research powerhouse and he will be missed. Fortunately, the AIDS community will continue to benefit from his ongoing AIDS research at UCLA. San Francisco's loss will be UCLA's gain," Pat Christen, executive director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, said in an e-mail.

While city health officials said they are saddened to see Coates move, they said they are heartened to know he will continue his research into AIDS.

"I am very sad. Tom and I have done a lot of projects together," said the city's health director Dr. Mitch Katz. "He has been a tremendous resource and leader for San Francisco."

"Let me say loudly and clearly that Tom can be anywhere in the United States of America and as long as there are e-mails, tele-

phones, and U.S. snail mail, we will actively seek his advice and counsel in regard to prevention strategies and research," said Jimmy Loyce, deputy director of health for AIDS programs.

Loyce said Coates has been invaluable to the city and the local AIDS community. Under Coates's tenure, projects such as needle exchange programs, post-exposure prophylactics, and research into transplants for people with HIV and AIDS have all benefited due to Coates's expertise and leadership.

And while Coates will no longer be in town, Loyce said he will still play a part in shaping how the city combats the HIV epidemic.

"While I am disappointed he is leaving San Francisco, you can run but you can't hide. We will find you," said Loyce. "I don't think Tom would say to the community 'I am done.' He is always going to be available. He may not say it, but we say it."

While he said he will miss San Francisco, Coates said it was the right time to make the career switch. He said he is confident UCSF and CAPS will remain leaders in AIDS research.

"My feeling is it's – in terms of the timing and the organization – the right time. I feel both organizations I lead are extremely strong. I can hand them over with great confidence to someone to make them even stronger and make them do better," he said.

Coates's move comes at a time when AIDS research has been under attack by conservatives in Washington, D.C. Researchers across the country have reported being told to censor their grant applications for words that could trigger greater scrutiny from lawmakers on the far right.

"I have been doing research for 30 years. Administrations come and go and sometimes you need to do things under the radar and at other times you can be direct and bold about it," he said. "The work has to go on. We just have to call it by different names. Part of what we teach to our young scientists is good grantsmanship, so what is written doesn't raise attention. A lot of the time we think it is more important to get the research done than to engage in controversy."

Outspoken researcher

Coates himself has been no stranger to controversy. In November 2001 he shocked those working in HIV prevention when he told an interviewer from Gay.com it may be time to end HIV prevention programs and "just make lots of condoms available, keep informing people where the STD centers are, and just accept that every year there will be a certain percentage of people who will get HIV."

Coates explained his comments to the *Bay Area Reporter* at the time as a way to jump start a discussion among the gay community, where he saw complacency around HIV and AIDS as partly responsible for recent spikes in sexually transmitted disease rates and HIV cases.

Shaking things up has always been a hallmark of Coates's career. When he founded the AIDS Research Institute in 1996, he entered into a hornet's nest of competing egos and various agendas within the Bay Area AIDS community. At the time, UCSF was being surpassed by colleges in the Northwest and South, and Coates was asked to help turn the university into a powerhouse for AIDS

research.

Under what he calls a "virtual institute," Coates banded together researchers and health officials from UCSF, the city's Department of Public Health, the Gladstone Institute of Virology and Immunology and the U.C. Berkeley School of Public Health. He now oversees research in the Bay Area as well as field studies in Peru, Africa, and Thailand.

"Everybody was doing AIDS research but there was no brain to it. No cohesion to it, no strategy," he said. "There was nobody to bring all the parties together to say how can we make the whole better than the sum of the parts?"

As to who will fill Coates's shoes once he is gone, that remains to be seen. There is no heir apparent to replace Coates and a decision will not be made until sometime this fall.

According to the *San Francisco*

Chronicle, which first reported Coates's departure last week, a replacement will not be named until a new dean of the UCSF School of Medicine is named. The current dean, Dr. Haile Debas, is retiring and told the paper his successor will name a new head to the AIDS Research Institute.

The power vacuum has caused some at UCSF to fear that without Coates, the AIDS Research Institute will no longer exist. But Coates dismisses such concerns and said he has no doubts that the institute will continue to thrive in his absence.

"I don't buy that for a minute," Coates told the *B.A.R.* "There is so much talent at UCSF. There is nothing worse than people like me keeping jobs like that and not letting people have an opportunity to take leadership positions."

"I think the AIDS institute will actually get better," he added. ▼

Staph

◀ page 4

According to health officials, the staph burrows into the skin and secretes an enzyme that causes boils, deep abscesses, and widespread inflammation.

The painful abscesses have shown up on patients' legs, buttocks, penis, scrotum, as well as on the face and hands. If stronger doses of antibiotics do not work on the staph, doctors have resorted to putting patients on self-administered intravenous drug regimens that take up to two weeks to complete.

"Some of these infections can be very aggressive," said Katz. "If someone has an abscess, if it gets very red, painful, or there is streaking, which is red lines coming out of the wounds, they need to get to a medical facility right away," said Katz.

So far the best prevention doctors can give is just old fashioned advice: wash your hands.

"In terms of how to prevent those infections, nobody has come up with a good answer. But it is always wise to do rigorous hand washing," said Katz. "A large number of infections have been passed by hands. It is just what our mothers taught us."

More information about MRSA can be found at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site at www.cdc.gov/ncidod/hip/Aresist/mrsafaq.htm. ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Davis refutes

◀ page 3

bill is sure to only heighten if the bill is passed as expected and as conservative groups try to use it to their advantage in recalling Davis.

In fact, the recall effort already is having an effect on how groups petition Davis to either support or oppose the bill. Already the recall proponents have used the slate of gay rights bills moving through the state Legislature to attack Davis.

During a town hall meeting held by ABC News anchor Peter Jennings in Sacramento, protesters of Davis began a parade with a truck draped in rainbow flags with huge signs that said "Gay Davis" and another sign saying "Gay Davis is trying to destroy marriage in California."

A group of former Davis campaign advisers has been meeting for several months to discuss how to combat the recall drive. Two of his staff members left their posts May 14 to work on the effort, including Eric Bauman, an openly gay special assistant to the governor.

"This recall is about nothing other than a bunch of losing Republicans trying to steal the governorship. Period," said Bauman. "The governor is not popular right now and we are facing a \$35 billion deficit but trust me, Darrell Issa or Bill Simon would surely not do any better at solving this than Governor Davis will and their priorities are a danger to the health and welfare of Californians, especially those with AIDS and HIV."

Bauman, a longtime denizen of the Democratic Party in Los Angeles, has been a close confidant to the governor and has played a strong role in shaping what legislation comes before Davis. Bauman also had been assigned by the governor to work with Goldberg on addressing his concerns with AB205.

Despite Bauman's departure, the governor still has other openly gay and lesbian advisers on staff. He recently named Daniel Zingale as his chief of staff. Gay political insiders said they were unsure what impact Bauman's moving to the anti-recall campaign would have on the status of gay legislation in Sacramento.

"I am sure that without Eric Bauman working directly in the office it is not like the governor will cease to hear about gay legislation coming up. We will make sure he hears about things coming to his desk," said Paul Hogan, Northern California co-chair of the gay and

Napa Pride

◀ page 5

to be working with the Unity League.

Since its inception, the North Bay Unity League, along with bringing LGBT community members together, has completed a different community service project each month to benefit the valley.

Community organizations such as Queen of the Valley's Care Network have also begun to call on the Unity League for help.

"We received a call that an HIV patient needed help moving, and another client needed a grab bar installed. These are little things we can do, but they make a big difference in the lives of those in need," said Gerry Julian, who co-chairs the Unity League's Community Service Committee.

For more information or to volunteer for the events, contact Deb Stallings at (707) 738-4826. To order Diversity Dance tickets call the Unity League info line at (707) 963-0182 or visit www.unityleague.org. ▼



Eric Bauman

lesbian Democratic caucus. "I don't expect his support for LGBT legislation to drop off. It is really hard to tell what effect this will have."

"Eric has been incredibly helpful in the past in getting our legislation noticed and have priority in the governor's office," added Hogan. "Hopefully Eric's absence will be short as the recall effort fizzles and dies in the next month or two."

For Bauman, he said there is nothing more important for him to do in regards to gay and lesbian issues than seeing that Davis remains in office.

"The people for the recall are not people who are for us; us being every other gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender person in this state," said Bauman.

While not directly leveraging their opposition to the recall effort

based on whether Davis signs AB205, gay rights groups are quick to point out that gays and lesbians solidly supported the governor in last November's election.

"I think the LGBT community has been one of the governor's staunchest allies and his coming out in support of our legislation, particularly AB205, would galvanize the community around him," said Kors. "Our community is incredibly loyal to elected officials who support us. And we also respond strongly to those who

don't. I think politicians are aware of that. I don't think we need to do anything more than continue to educate about our bills."

Even the fact that AB205 is still on the table is some indication as to Davis's likely signing the legislation come this fall. Facing a tough re-election battle last year, Davis made it clear he did not want to see similar legislation come before him, and Goldberg waited until this year to introduce AB205 to the Assembly.

Despite giving his critics am-

munition to spur conservative Christians to support the recall drive, Davis has made no moves to jettison the bill this year.

"I think the fact the governor is so engaged in spite of the enormous such pressure he faces tells what a friend he has been to our community all along," said Goldberg. "I think it is remarkable. I am very proud to have his help, his office's help and his support. I think the community will be overjoyed when we are through with this process." ▼

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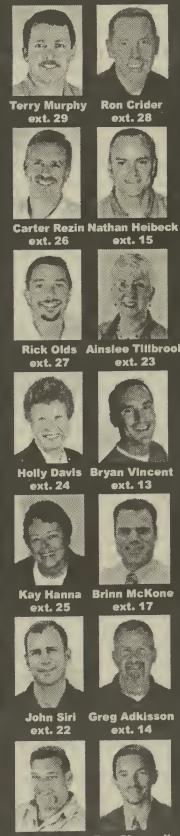
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On defense

by Jim Provenzano

After seeing *The Matrix Reloaded* last weekend with my pal Eric at the new and equally Matrix-esque Daly City mall, we were dismayed to see a scene from the film replayed, as an entire hillside of South San Francisco lay dark from a power outage.

Were more souls being freed from the machine's lies? Hey, if Colin Powell got caught being quoted calling the weapons of mass destruction reports "bullshit," you know that something must be going right.

My dreams that night included a bit of Matrix-esque flying (and an unrelated interlude with *Hulk* star Eric Bana), the details of which

I'll spare you), as well as some snazzy martial arts moves. Even in our waking hours, quite a few blockbusters abide among our own GLBT athletic community.

While they may not be able to save you from the 101 freeway, if you're so inspired, they welcome novices in classes this month, and throughout the summer.

Tae-dye

A free self-defense seminar will be held by Triangle Taekwon Do on Friday, June 13 from 7:30 - 9 p.m. at the Eureka Valley Recreational Center at 18th and Collingwood (one block west of Castro Street, next to Cala Foods).

The seminar will be led by experienced black belt instructors, and will focus on self-defense concepts, recognition of potential danger, conflict assessment and de-escalation techniques, and legal responsibilities of the defender.

Techniques will include basic moves to evade and defend oneself, as well as elements of hapkido, which uses pressure points and leverage to disable the attacker.

Reserving a space for the seminar is recommended, by contacting (415) 495-1888 or TTKDC@aol.com. A \$5-10 donation for the seminar is suggested (purely optional, and always appreciated).

Triangle Taekwon Do will have a float in the parade on June 29, as well as an information booth on Saturday and Sunday of Pride weekend.

Summer beginner Triangle TKD classes will be held at the Eureka Valley Rec Center during June, July, and August: Tuesday, 6-8 p.m.; Wednesday, 6-7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 6-7:30 p.m.

Visit www.triangletkd.org or e-mail ttkdc@aol.com.

Handy

For East Bay women, there's no better place than Hand to Hand Kajukenbo Self-Defense Center for self-defense and martial arts lessons.

Hand to Hand provides traditional martial arts training and self-defense classes. The center was founded in 1980 by Sigung Coleen Gragen, and is one of the largest woman-led schools on the West Coast.

Hand to Hand's martial arts program provides training in the eclectic art of Kajukenbo, combining the best techniques and training methods of five traditional martial arts systems.

The name Kajukenbo was created by combining the first two letters of each style. Ka (karate) ju (judo and jiu-jitsu) ken (kenpo) and bo (Chinese boxing).

Ancient and modern training methods are combined toward reaching the goals of integration of mind, body, and spirit, as well as practical self-defense skills and development. Students of this art develop excellent body conditioning, power, balance, and fluidity of movement.

Training at Hand to Hand includes the study of basic techniques, traditional forms, fighting strategy, practical self-defense, and weapons practice.

Head instructor Sifu Jen Resnick and instructor Sifu Sonya Richardson performed at the 2002 Gay Games in Sydney, Australia.

Team Gragen brought home the gold, as well as a few other colored medals, and Oakland martial



Jim Provenzano

Triangle Taekwon Do members at a recent kick-a-thon.

Team Gragen medals

Sifu Jen Resnick:
Gold – black belt weapons soft
Gold – women's 3rd dan and above empty hand
Gold – women's black belt musical
Silver – women's 35+ sparring

Sifu Sonya Richardson:
Gold – women's black belt self-defense
Gold – women's flyweight/light-weight sparring
Silver – 35+ women's black belt weapons
Silver – women's 3rd dan and above empty hand
Silver – women's black belt musical

Richelle Donigan:
Gold – intermediate weapons
Gold – intermediate empty hand
Bronze – intermediate sparring

Serian Strauss:
Silver – beginners empty hand
Bronze – beginners weapons

Eden Schwartz:
Silver – beginners weapons
Bronze – beginners empty hand
Bronze – beginners sparring

Prez Francisco:
Gold – beginners empty hand
Gold – beginners weapons
Gold – beginners self defense

Aqualicious

SF Tsunami Water Polo is keeping it wet and fresh, with its frequent and always festive fundraisers. Members invite you to Splash!, a summer dance party, at the Luna Lounge, 1192 Folsom near 8th Street on Saturday, June 7, from 9 p.m. - 2 a.m. There's a \$10 cover charge.

Join the guys and gals of SF Tsunami Water Polo as they kick off Summer 2003 at the new Luna Lounge's cool four-room club, featuring stylish 1960s decor. Groovy, baby!

The fundraiser will help the team prepare for the 2003 International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics Championship Games to be held in San Francisco August 21-24 and hosted by the Tsunami teams.

There will be Jell-O shots for sale, munchies, a no-host bar, entertainment, multiple dance floors, raffles, and plenty of cute Tsunami water polo players to serve as your personal hosts. With several DJs spinning records, SF Tsunami Water Polo fans will be dancing well into the night.

Help Tsunami support the more than 1,500 gay and lesbian athletes from around the world compete in water polo, swimming, diving, and synchronized diving. For more information, visit www.igla2003.org.

For more information about SF Tsunami Water Polo and Splash events, visit www.tsunamipolo.org.

To be included on the e-vite and RSVP for a ticket, contact Tyler Schneebelen at tyler_schneebelen@mindspring.com. ▼

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OBITUARIES

Bryan G. Blanford

Bay Area artist and photographer, Bryan G. Blanford, passed away peacefully on May 28, 2003 ending his long struggle with AIDS. Born in Florida in 1962, Bryan received his BFA in photography from Northern Arizona University in 1985 and had continuing studies at Stanford University and Santa Rosa Junior College. His work was included in: the City of Mountain View's public art catalog, the films "Children of a Lesser God" and "Agnes of God", and exhibitions at Mesh Gallery (Sebastopol) and Visual Aid's Big Deal (San Francisco).

He is survived by his partner, John E. McGuirk (Sunnyvale), his mother Ruth Blanford (Miami, FL), his father George Blanford (Demming, NM), his brothers Dennis Blanford (Albuquerque, NM) and Darryl Blanford (Rio Rancho, NM) and an extended family and cherished circle of friends. We wish to acknowledge the extraordinary care provided by Stanford University's Positive Care Clinic with support from hospice and Health Connections.

There will not be a memorial or funeral. Memorial donations may be sent to: Community School of Music & Arts (200 View St., Mountain View 94011), or Visual Aid (731 Market St. #600, SF

94103) or Food for Thought/Sonoma County AIDS Foodbank (6550 Railroad Ave., Forestville 95436).

Brad F. Bryan
November 14, 1960 — May 20, 2003

Brad Frederick Bryan died unexpectedly on Tuesday, May 20 of Wolff-Parkinson-White Syndrome. Born and raised in Fresno, he graduated Herndon Elementary and Central Union High Schools. Later he attended Fresno City and State Colleges studying dance and wine.

Brad was a magnificent, beautiful

man. He had a quiet sense of strength and dignity which made those around him feel safe, warm and protected. Although very private, he was gracious, kind, generous and fiercely loyal toward those he loved.

He lived life fully, enjoying many interests, including motorcycle racing, ice-skating, scuba diving, skiing, travel, target practice, and riding his Harley-Davidson.

Brad endured many losses in his life,

yet bore them well. He lost his dad Homer Frederick very early in life, and his brother Mark in 1995. He remained a loyal and devoted son to his mom, together traveling, dancing and easing each other's pain. He touched our lives in ways he is only now just discovering.

Brad will be remembered by his mother Betty, his aunt Marian, his nephews Thomas and Corey and sister-in-law Karen, his partner Glen, his roommates Mike and Alwishes, his friends Bill, Kip, and so many others who loved and cared about him.

You are in our hearts forever Brad. For memorial service information, please call (415) 695-2845.

Leatherman Charles Lance dies

by Cynthia Laird

Charles "Chuck" Lance died on Friday, May 30 in Covington, Louisiana due to complications of prostate cancer. He was 44.

Mr. Lance was Mr. Louisiana Leather 2000 and competed in the 2001 International Mr. Leather contest. His stirring 90-second speech centering on mentoring the youth of the leather community received a prolonged standing ovation during the competition, friends said.

Mr. Lance was the manager of the world-famous Phoenix bar in New Orleans, Louisiana and was active not only in his home town but in other areas of the leather community.

Marcus Hernandez, the leather columnist for the *Bay Area Reporter*, said that Mr. Lance was well-liked and always willing to help out with various fundraising activities.

"I judged his contest when he won Mr. Louisiana Leather," Hernandez recalled, adding that Mr. Lance placed in the top 20 of the International Mr. Leather contest in which he competed in 2001.

"He was a sweetheart. He was proud to be from New Orleans and was always helping people with fundraising stuff."

Mr. Lance was an ardent supporter of the Pantheon of Leather Awards and as such was host to hundreds of leather people each year while the awards ceremony was held in New Orleans. He an-

nually hosted a victory brunch for Pantheon Award winners in the courtyard of Le Petit Théâtre in New Orleans.

His special interest was directed toward Alaska where he formed a strong friendship with the Alaska leather community through his association with Jack Darnell, Mr. Leather Alaska.

Mr. Lance impressed the community with his candor, humor, dedication, and true sense of leather pride and will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by members of his immediate family and a legion of leather folk around the world. ▼

KQED award

◀ page 1

LGBT leaders.

Evans also said that the station relies on the community to make nominations for the awards, which it solicits on its Web site. KQED staff members then choose the winners.

Evans said she telephoned Chen on May 23, after he had stopped working at the center, to inform him of the award.

When she phoned him, Evans said, "He was very forthcoming. He said something to the effect of 'I am no longer working there.' I assured him that this was not about his last job. These awards are about years of community service and commitment."

Yet the invitation to KQED's awards ceremony identifies Chen with the LGBT Community Center.

Evans said that the subject of Chen not accepting the award did not come up in their conversation.

Reached Tuesday, June 3, Chen told the B.A.R. that he didn't really

think about not accepting the award. Wiener refused to comment on Chen's receiving the award.

Wiener said that the center's board did badly miscalculate the center's fundraising abilities. They had projected forward the income from the building's capital campaign, and had hoped it would continue at the same rate.

It didn't. While they have attracted, according to center co-chair Randi Gerson, "1,000 to 1,500 new members," only about 300 to 350 of the 1,200 major donors to the capital campaign have made ongoing commitments to the center, she said.

Chen declined to talk about his tenure at the center, but did offer to be available for incoming Executive Director Thom Lynch, who's expected to start work later this month.

Prior to working at the center, Chen had headed the Lavender Youth Information and Recreation Center, an organization that works with LGBTQ youth, providing recreation, education, and activities to foster leadership. He held that position for four years.

Prior to his work at LYRIC, Cheu was a staff member at the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, where he investigated discrimination complaints.

Cheu is a lawyer who worked for San Francisco's Morrison & Foerster and at Patient's Rights Advocacy Services. He has served on many commissions and boards and said he is especially proud of his work on a Department of Education task force to reduce hate crimes against LGBT youth.

Other recipients of the KQED Pride Awards are:

- Gene Dermody, who has worked as a gay and lesbian sports organizer. He coordinated the wrestling program for the 2002 Gay Games in Sydney. He coaches the Golden Gate Wrestling Club.

- Terry Person-Harris, the executive director of Community United Against Violence. Person-Harris is also a grand marshal in this year's Pride Parade.

- Shana Naomi Krochmal, the communications director of the Stop AIDS Project. She joined the agency in 2002 during the high-profile federal audit in which the organization's work was labeled "obscene." "We won our battle," she said, referring to the audit's findings, which cleared the agency, "but this culture war is still being waged."

The awards will be presented Wednesday, June 25, from 6-8 p.m., at KQED's broadcasting center, 2601 Mariposa Street, at Bryant. ▼

Jo-Carol

◀ page 4

Gayle, and the Count Basie Orchestra. As a director, writer, and performer of musical comedy, Jo-Carol conducted The Ethel Merman Choir, portrayed Barbra Streisand in the annual cult theater classic *A Karen Carpenter Christmas*, and starred in *Songs In the Key of Me*, her original one-woman show at The Marsh.

Jo-Carol was also active in her neighborhood, and had just been re-elected as president of the Cayuga Improvement Association. Another project she spearheaded was the rebuilding of the Crocker-Amazon playground.

Supervisor Gerardo Sandoval, who worked with Jo-Carol on several projects, said she would be missed.

"Jo-Carol was a vibrant, joyful, fun-loving spirit in our community," Sandoval said.

Jo-Carol's friends noted that she donated her organs to Cal Pacific. Jo-Carol is survived by her

husband, Tyler Davidson, of San Francisco; parents Estelle and Murray Block, of Glenmont, New York; brothers Paul Block (and wife Connie), of Delmar, New York and Richard (and wife Loranne), of Antrim, New Hampshire; two nephews, and a niece.

A memorial will be held Saturday, June 7. For more information, call (415) 731-5539.

On Sunday, June 8, Jo-Carol's good friends and colleagues, performers Jeanie Tracy and Linda Imperial, along with Empress Snatch, are dedicating their scheduled performance at the Edge to Jo-Carol. The "Studio 54" benefit was planned by Mr. Edge Leather 2003 Frank Vasconcellos, before Jo-Carol's death, Virginia said, and the show will go on. It runs from 4-8 p.m. at the bar, on. ▼

The family requests that donations in Jo-Carol's memory be made to the Cayuga Improvement Association, 314 Foote Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94112 or to Pets Are Wonderful Support, P.O. Box 460487, San Francisco, CA 94146. ▼

Peter J. Olsen, D.D.S.
August 6, 1941 - May 27, 2003

Our dear beloved Peter left this world to enter a more peaceful place on Tuesday evening, May 27th, at 8:20 pm with his loving friends at his side. Peter fought a brave battle against the cancer that ultimately took his life.

Peter was born and raised in the Bay Area, graduating from high school in Moraga and attending UC Berkeley before going to dental school in Chicago. Dr. Olsen set up his dental practice on Union Street in San Francisco and made The City his home. He was truly beloved by an amazing number of patients during the 25 years that he practiced dentistry. Loretta Evans and the rest of his office staff became a family that Peter cared for deeply.

Peter was active in many different organizations and activities from square dancing to outdoor adventures to skiing to cooking and travel. His incredible energy and joy for life was evident in everything he did. His sense of style was admired by everyone. He loved flowers (especially roses and orchids). He loved to travel and took advantage of every opportunity to see the world. He created a beautiful home that he loved to share with friends and loved ones—Valentine's Day and Christmas Eve will never be the same without him. He gave freely of his love and generosity. Anyone whose life was touched by Peter knew that he or she was truly blessed.

Peter was survived by his mother, Wilma Olsen of Walnut Creek, and by a circle of friends that stretches across the globe. During his illness, he was cared for by his core support group which included some of his closest friends: Barry Wolpa, Shuzi Ikeda, Alfred Olsen, Bob Bolton, Kathleen Hurley and Sarah Hamilton, Jessie Gutierrez, and John Carr. His home care attendants, particularly Emma Ortanez and Nelson Pichet, were a blessing for Peter and all who cared for him. And, special thanks, too, to Peter's Hartford Street neighbors for all their love and support.

Peter generously supported many charitable organizations. Donations in his name can be made to the charity of your choice. At Peter's request, no memorial service will be held. But, a celebration of his life will be held on Sunday, July 27th at Peter's home in the garden that he loved so much. (Contact Barry@barrywolpa.com for details).

Peter, our love will be with you always. Be at peace knowing that the family you created will always be there for each other.

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Announcing A Study of Leptin: A New and Unique Potential Treatment for Metabolic Complications of HIV

HIV-POSITIVE?

HAVE YOU HAD ANY CHANGES IN YOUR BODY FAT PATTERN?

Researchers at University of California, San Francisco, are recruiting HIV+ men and women with body fat and metabolic abnormalities for a 6-month study of a new drug called LEPTIN on sugars and fat metabolism and on body fat changes.

The treatment will involve twice a day injections. Most study visits will take place at San Francisco General Hospital and will include periods of hospitalization on a research ward.

Participants who finish the study will be paid \$1,000.

For telephone screening, please call:
Dr. Hootan Khatami
(415) 206-4185

Are You Failing Your Current NNRTI Regimen?

If you are taking a medication regimen that includes one NNRTI - Rescriptor (Delavirdine), Sustiva (Efavirenz), or Viramune (Nevirapine) and two NRTIs and it is not working for you (viral load of 1,000 copies/ml or more), you may be eligible to participate in a clinical research trial of Capravirine.

Capravirine is a new NNRTI that has shown potent in vitro activity against HIV strains that contain the K103N mutation. This mutation confers high level resistance to all 3 of the currently approved NNRTIs.

To qualify for this study, you must have not have had prior treatment with Capravirine or Nelfinavir.

For more information, please contact
Dr. Stephen Becker of Pacific Horizon Medical Group
Call 415-292-5477 ext. 480.

Just say yes to (ADAP) drugs

by Danielle Stevens,
ALRP Law Clerk

The following is an occasional column compiled by the AIDS Legal Referral Panel on issues of concern to people living with AIDS.

Dear ALRP:

I am living with disabling HIV and my insurance doesn't cover all of my HIV medicine. I have trouble affording my prescription drug costs. Where can I receive more funding/help?

— Drugless in S.F.

Dear Drugless:

Have hope. There is help out there. For people who are underinsured or not insured and living with HIV/AIDS, the AIDS Drug Assistance Program offers help. ADAP's purpose is to provide funding for HIV drugs. The drugs funded by ADAP are intended to prolong quality of life and to delay the deterioration of health among individuals infected with HIV.

For those who are underinsured, ADAP serves to fill the gap in prescription drug coverage, meaning it covers any expenses not provided for by Medi-Cal, Medicare, and private insurance. For those who are uninsured, ADAP may function as the only funding source of HIV-related medications.

Am I eligible?

Individuals are eligible for ADAP if they: are infected with HIV; have an annual federal adjusted gross income below \$50,000; are not covered by/eligible for Medi-Cal or another third-party payer (You may be required to apply for Medi-Cal as part of your ADAP application process.); are a resident of California; are 18 years of age or older; and have a valid prescription from a California licensed physician.

In order to receive prescription drugs free of charge, your federal adjusted gross income must be below 400 percent of federal poverty level, which is currently \$35,440 for a single person with no children. If you do not meet this criterion but your federal adjusted gross income is between \$35,441 and \$50,000, a co-

payment may be required depending on the number of dependents you claim on your income tax return. If your income is over \$50,000 you are not eligible for ADAP.

How do I apply?

To fill out an ADAP application, you must go to an enrollment site such as Ward 86 at San Francisco General Hospital or the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

There are 15 enrollment sites in San Francisco. You can get a list of them by visiting www.ramsellcorp.com and clicking on the link for ADAP, then California, then enrollment sites. Or you can call (415) 554-9168 for a list of the enrollment sites. You will need to make an appointment, but usually there is no wait to be seen. The application process usually takes 20 to 30 minutes. The following documents are required to support your ADAP application and should be brought with you:

- Proof of California residence (i.e. rental agreement or utility bill in your name, identifying place of residence).

- Picture identification (California driver's license, California identification card, passport, school I.D., etc.).

- Proof of income (copies of either your most recent federal or state income tax returns, most recent pay stub, public assistance or Social Security award letters).

- Proof of Medi-Cal application (if available) and/or documentation of any current health insurance coverage (if applicable).

- Letter of HIV diagnosis from your physician.

If your application is approved, in many cases you may begin using your ADAP benefits as early as the following day.

What medications are covered?

To view the list of prescriptions covered visit www.ramsellcorp.com.

Dear ALRP:

I already receive ADAP, but every time I go to my pharmacy they hassle me. The pharmacist usually demands a co-pay before giving me my medication even

though ADAP said they would cover the co-pay since I already have insurance.

— Tired of Being Hassled in S.F.

Dear Tired:

There is no California law that requires pharmacists to accept ADAP or ADAP protocol. It is therefore very important to find out if the pharmacist who you frequent participates in ADAP (visit www.ramsellcorp.com for a list of pharmacies). If the pharmacy participates in ADAP, it has signed a contract agreeing to the terms and conditions of ADAP's program. Consequently, if there are any problems with a pharmacy that recognizes ADAP but continually hassles you when you attempt to fill a prescription, the best remedy is to file a complaint. The complaint should be filed with Professional Management Development Corporation (PMDC): 200 Webster Street, Suite 300, Oakland, CA 94607. PMDC will contact the corporate office to resolve the problem.

Since 1983, ALRP has provided free and low-cost legal services for people with HIV in the San Francisco Bay Area. ALRP provides direct services and referrals to HIV-sensitive panel attorneys. ALRP can assist you in a variety of matters, including credit and bankruptcy, insurance and employee benefits, wills and powers of attorney, landlord-tenant relations and housing issues, government benefits, employment, confidentiality, and establishing child guardianship. This article is not intended as legal advice for your specific situation. ▼

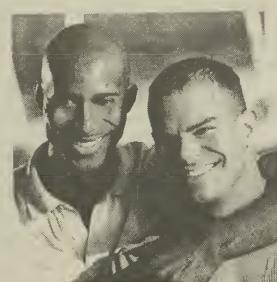
Do you have any legal questions? Call ALRP at (415) 701-1100 or (510) 451-5353; or write: 1663 Mission Street, Suite 500, San Francisco, CA 94103. For specific questions regarding housing call (415) 701-1200, ext. 314. To find out more about ALRP visit the Web site at www.alrp.org.

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LEGAL NOTICES

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO



SAN FRANCISCO LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION (SFLACFC) is scheduled to hold a public hearing at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, June 20, 2003, in the Legislative Chamber, Room 250, City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place on the R.W. Beck Report on Community Aggregation (AB117) Migden.

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING INSPECTION

COME PARTICIPATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING INSPECTION'S BROWN BAG LUNCH TALKS at 1660 Mission Street, Room 2001 (second floor), Thursdays, Noon to 1:30 P.M.

The Department welcomes you to attend a series of informal, general information talks presented at no charge to the public and City staff. Bring your lunch; coffee and other drinks will be provided. June 19, 2003 Residential Fire Sprinklers. Department of Building Inspection and Fire Department staff

NOTE: Persons unable to attend are invited to mail their comments or questions, to request materials hand out, or to call and speak with department staff. Please contact Laurence Kornfield, Chief Building Inspector, Technical Services Division at (415) 558-6205 for further information.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

The Redevelopment Agency of the City and County of San Francisco (Agency) is requesting qualifications of law firms experienced in real estate transactions, litigation and construction matters interested in serving as outside counsel to the Agency. The selected firms will join a panel designated by the Agency Commission to provide as-needed real estate legal assistance on Agency projects. Firms whose skills and experience include work with the Agency or other agencies organized under California Community Redevelopment Law or low and moderate income housing are desired. To inquire about the RFQ or to obtain a copy of the RFQ, please visit the Agency's website at <http://www.sfgov.org/sfra> or call Beverly Marino at (415) 749-2487.

Request for Qualifications submittals/responses are due by 3 p.m., PST, Friday, June 20, 2003.

BLACK INFANT HEALTH PROGRAM

The Black Infant Health Improvement Program (Bi-Hip) is a free program that provides supportive services to pregnant and parenting African American women with children up to 2 years of age. If you or someone you know is a woman that needs help finding a doctor, getting to appointments connecting to community resources, preparing for a new baby, or just someone to talk to, please call Bi-Hip at (415) 671-0214.

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SFGTV Video Streaming: SFGTV provides streaming video of its programming, on the Internet, 24 hours a day. Access SFGTV online at www.sfgov.org/sfgtv

Video on Demand: View Commission meetings, the Mayor's Press Availability, and Board of Supervisors meetings covered within the last 90 days at your convenience, via SFGTV's Video on Demand at www.sfgov.org/sfgtv.

City and County of San Francisco
Department of Human Services
Request for Qualifications #240
Dear Potential Applicants:

The City and County of San Francisco

Department of Human Services (SF DHS)

announces its intent to seek qualifications from individuals interested in contracting to serve as the Client Liaison for Family and Children's Services Division. The Contractor access

to the SF DHS, SFDS, and children and families accessing the services of the SF DHS.

Should any complaint be lodged against the SF DHS, The Liaison resolves complaints from clients and foster and adoptive parents by maintaining telephone hotlines to receive queries and responding promptly to those queries. The Liaison will gather information and file official complaints where necessary. Most importantly, the Liaison will serve as an important intermediary between the client and the appropriate Dept. of Social Welfare in order to effect a fair resolution of the situation. The contract period will run from 9/1/03 to 6/30/04 for an amount to be determined. An RFQ packet may be picked up at SF DHS, Office of Contract Management, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 300, Monday, June 2, 2003. Office hours are from 8:30 AM to 5 PM. The RFQ packet and subsequent updates may be downloaded from the City's website on or after June 2, 2003. Go to

HTTP://SUNSETSF.SFCA.US/PBDS.NSF and click on the "Community and Professional Services" link. The Respondents' Conference will be held on Thursday, June 12, 2003 at 9:00 AM at 1650 Mission St., Suite 300, SF, CA. For further information, call Johanna Gendelman, at (415) 557-5162. Due date for responses is Friday, June 27, 2003 at 5:00 PM.

06/05/03 • CNS: 542941 • BAY AREA REPORTER

STATEMENT FILE 0266578-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: The Luna Lounge And Nightclub, 1192 Folsom Street San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Ignacio Luna Jr. president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 08, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/08/2003.

MAY 15, 22, 29, JUNE 5, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0266579-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Market Street Mailhouse, 2215 Market Street San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Christopher M. Dene. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 09, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/09/2003.

MAY 15, 22, 29, JUNE 5, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0266722-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Paradise Landscape, 54 Middlepoint Road San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Paradise Vaovasa. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/07/2003.

MAY 15, 22, 29, JUNE 5, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0266511-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Green Street Communications, 2014 Green Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by an individual signed Phoebe Lam. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on April 29, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04/29/2003.

MAY 15, 22, 29, JUNE 5, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0266070-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Rendezvous Cafe, 1760 Polk Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Antonio Gonzalez. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on April 14, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04/14/2003.

MAY 15, 22, 29, JUNE 5, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0266681-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Pot-Drain Company, 231 Waller Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed John C. Boling. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 06, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/06/2003.

MAY 15, 22, 29, JUNE 5, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0267020-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: New Cheung Hing Restaurant, 1936 Irving Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Xiao Ling Meng. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 01, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/01/2003.

MAY 22, 29, JUNE 5, 2003

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.CNC 03540740

In the Matter of the Application of Sean Adrien "Lew". For change of Name. The application of Sean Adrien "Lew" for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Sean Adrien "Lew" has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Sean Adrien "Petit". Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 17 day of July at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

MAY 21, 29, JUNE 5, 12, 2003

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: International Nodle House Inc.. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 690 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. Type of license Applied for:

47-ON SALE GENERAL EATING PLACE.

MAY 29, JUNE 5, 12, 19, 2003

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.CNC-03-540731

In the Matter of the Application of Diana Rosenthal. For change of Name. The application of Diana Rosenthal for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Diana Rosenthal has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Diana Alexandra Rosenthal. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Room 218 on the 5th day of August at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

MAY 22, 29, JUNE 5, 12, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0266926-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Boboquivari's The Steak, 1450 Lombard Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Jerry Dal Bozzo, president.

The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/15/2003.

MAY 22, 29, JUNE 5, 12, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0266196-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: East-West Integrative Medicine Clinic, 605 Cheney Street, Suite C, San Francisco, Ca. 94131. This business is conducted by an individual signed Marnie Rachelle McCurdy. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on April 18, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04/18/2003.

MAY 22, 29, JUNE 5, 12, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0266993-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Tower Electric Company, 3467 17th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94141. This business is conducted by an individual signed Mark Musumeci. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 17, 1994. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04/19/2003.

MAY 22, 29, JUNE 5, 12, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0266993-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Tower Electric Company, 3467 17th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94141. This business is conducted by an individual signed Mark Musumeci. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 17, 1994. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04/19/2003.

MAY 22, 29, JUNE 5, 12, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0266993-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Blue Corner, Inc. 175 Bluxome Street #129, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Kelly McKean Schreitmuller, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/28/2003.

MAY 22, 29, JUNE 5, 12, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0266943-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Blue Corner, Inc. 175 Bluxome Street #129, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Kelly McKean Schreitmuller, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/28/2003.

MAY 22, 29, JUNE 5, 12, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0266991-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: New Cheung Hing Restaurant, Located at: 1936 Irving Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business was conducted by an Husband and wife signed Kim Bun Lam and Dina Lam. The statement referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: November 16, 2001.

MAY 22, 29, JUNE 5, 12, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0266991-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Dream Away Publishing, 1592 Stillwell Rd. Apt. B, San Francisco, Ca. 94129. This business is conducted by an individual signed Orin C. Carpenter. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 19, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/19/2003.

MAY 22, 29, JUNE 5, 12, 19, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0266990-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Club La Cantina Productions, 891 Post Street #402, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Daniel Flores Gonzalez. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 14, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/14/2003.

MAY 22, 29, JUNE 5, 12, 19, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0266990-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Club La Cantina Productions, 891 Post Street #402, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Daniel Flores Gonzalez. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 14, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/14/2003.

MAY 22, 29, JUNE 5, 12, 19, 2003

LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OR USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 257805

The following person(s) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Kidlat Productions. Located at 46-Sixth Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business was conducted by an individual signed Isidro M. Nova. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: May 17, 2002.

MAY 29, JUNE 5, 12, 19, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0267252-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Crab House At Pier 39, 203 C. Pier 39, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Jerry Dal Bozzo. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on April 23, 1998. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/29/2003.

JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0267286-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: J & Antiques, 209 Sixth Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94118-2311. This business is conducted by co-partners signed Jack C. Hetherington and Jeffrey A. Mandala. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 30, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/30/2003.

JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26, 2003

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.CNC-03-540767

In the Matter of the Application of Enoch D'Bau. For change of Name. The application of Enoch D'Bau for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Enoch D'Bau has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Enoch Day. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Room 218 on the 5th day of August at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26, 2003

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.CNC-03-540760

In the Matter of the Application of Enoch D'Bau. For change of Name. The application of Enoch D'Bau for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Enoch D'Bau has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Enoch Day. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Room 218 on the 5th day of August at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26, 2003

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Rapidan Inc.. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, Suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 500 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94111. Type of license Applied for:

47-ON SALE GENERAL EATING PLACE

JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0266701-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Budda Amplification, 199 Sutter Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94104. This business is conducted by an individual signed John Millar, CEO. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 07, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/07/2003.

JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0267050-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Lew And Mark Enterprises, 761 Jackson Street, #4, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Randal Forrest White. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/29/2003.

JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0267065-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Lew And Mark Enterprises, 761 Jackson Street, #4, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Albert T. Lew and Wah Fai Mark. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/29/2003.

JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26, 2003

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.CNC-03-540761

In the Matter of the Application of Julie Morrison For change of Name. The application of Julie Morrison for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Julie Morrison has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Julie Morrison. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Room 218 on the 5th day of August at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0267191-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Zaza, No. 12 Tillman Place, San Francisco, Ca. 94108. This business is conducted by a husband and wife signed Khadjenour, Bahram and Khadjenour, Vicoria. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 07, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/07/2003.

JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0267250-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Zaza, No. 12 Tillman Place, San Francisco, Ca. 94108. This business is conducted by a husband and wife signed Khadjenour, Bahram and Khadjenour, Vicoria. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 29, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/29/2003.

JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0267250-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Zaza, No. 12 Tillman Place, San Francisco, Ca. 94108. This business is conducted by a husband and wife signed Khadjenour, Bahram and Khadjenour, Vicoria. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 29, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/29/2003.

JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0267250-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Zaza, No. 12 Tillman Place, San Francisco, Ca. 94108. This business is conducted by a husband and wife signed Khadjenour, Bahram and Khadjenour, Vicoria. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 29, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/29/2003.

JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0267250-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Zaza, No. 12 Tillman Place, San Francisco, Ca. 94108. This business is conducted by a husband and wife signed Khadjenour, Bahram and Kh

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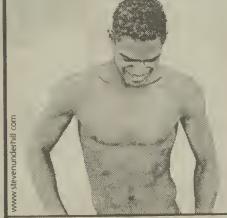


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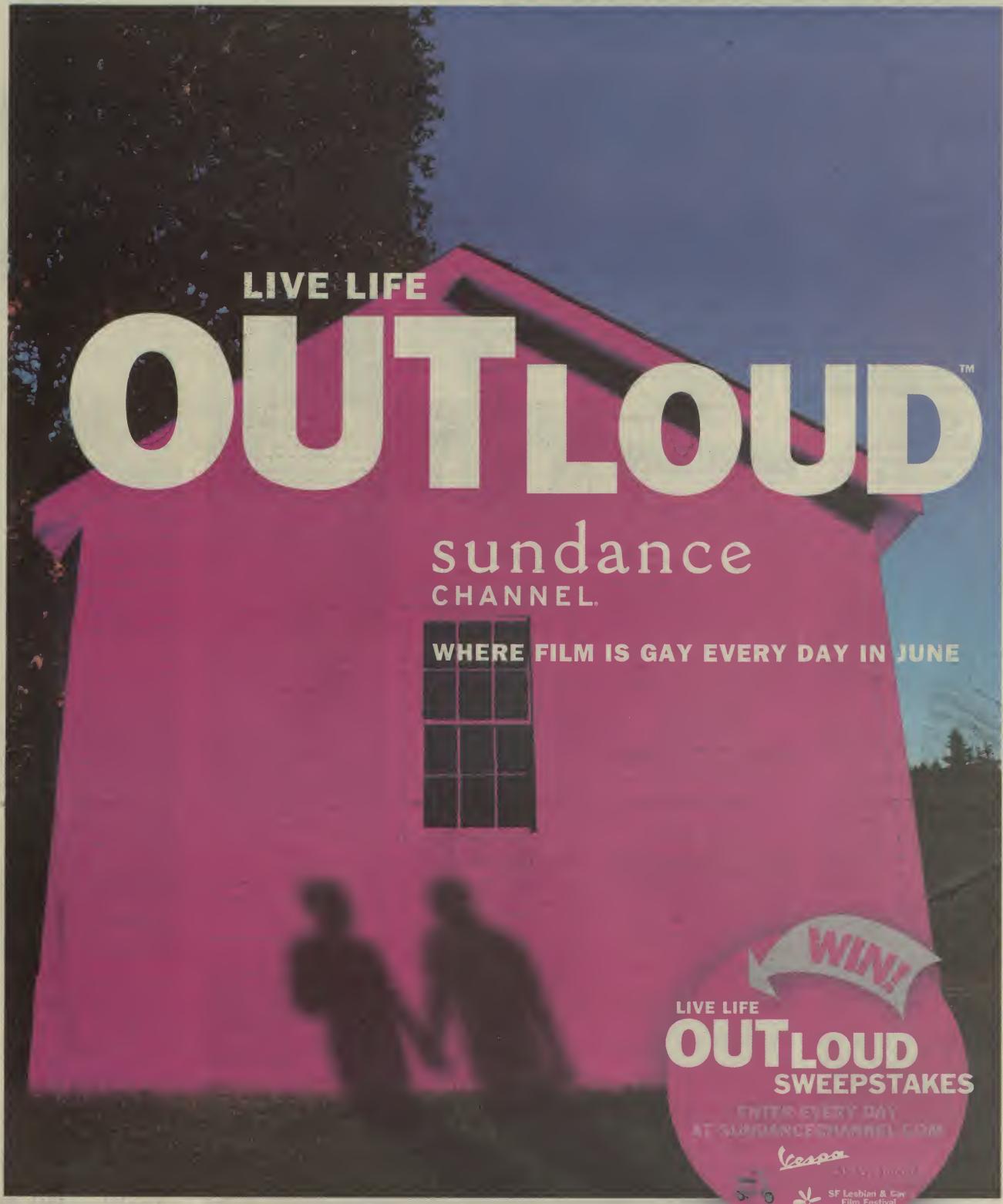
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Fun and gamelans in Berkeley fest
Premieres by late composer Lou Harrison
highlight Edge Fest/Contemporary Music.
page 34

Teutonic mavericks
SF Symphony does Weill,
Wagner, Weimar years.
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Stars of summer opera
Florez, Zajick featured in
SF Opera's rump season.
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Vol. 33 • No. 23 • 5 June 2003



Painting by Robert Lentz

Harvey, now and forever

International Museum of GLBT History opens with 'Saint Harvey'

by Adam Sandel

Few people epitomize the struggle for gay rights more than Harvey Milk. Actually, no one epitomizes the struggle for gay rights more than Harvey Milk.

In 1977, Milk became the first openly gay candidate to be elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Less than a year later, an assassin's bullet transformed him into a modern-day martyr for the gay liberation movement.

It's more than fitting that the inaugural exhibit of the new International Museum of GLBT History is *Saint Harvey: The Life and Afterlife of a Modern Gay Martyr*. Every gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender person who enjoys the freedom to walk down the street holding hands with a loved one without fear or shame needs to see this exhibit. It is our history.

Milk's personal effects tell the story of his Long Island childhood, his naval career in the Korean War, and his awakening to the counterculture world of 1960s New York.

Broadway posters for *Hair*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Lenny* recount his career move from financial analyst to associate producer of edgy theatre. Names in his New York address book include Neil Diamond and Gore Vidal.

It was a 1972 production of *Hair* that brought Milk to San Francisco. He never left, opening the Castro Camera Shop in 1973. The original sign and camera stock from the shop are displayed alongside Milk's jeans and Guatemalan peasant shirt covered with buttons that reflect his early political activism.

The buttons declare "Gay Liberation," "McGovern Shriver in '72," "Shameless Agitator" and the darkly ironic "Where is Lee Harvey Oswald now that we really need him?"

Milk's personal tchotchkes reveal his penchant for Popeye (he was, after all, a sailor himself). A wealth of campaign signs and

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Complicated witches

The women of 'Wicked' harmonize

by Richard Dodds

The good witch is a little bit country. The bad witch is a little bit rock 'n' roll. And together they're singing a Broadway melody in *Wicked*.

The stars of the New York-bound musical now at the Curran have been happily surprised at their rapport, on and off the stage, despite their different backgrounds and demeanors.

The cute-as-a-button Kristin Chenoweth, cast as the good witch Glinda, grew up Southern Baptist in Oklahoma and still often asks herself, "What would Jesus do?"

The edgier Idina Menzel, playing wicked witch Elphaba, grew up Jewish on Long Island, and looks to performing for an escape "from me feeling crazy, neurotic, and my head always filled with a million things."

Chenoweth and Menzel are playing characters invented by L. Frank Baum and made culturally indelible by the 1939 movie *The Wizard of Oz*. But their version of these characters was created by novelist Gregory Maguire in *Wicked*, a 1995 bestseller that imagined how the witches of Oz came to be considered either good or wicked. From meeting in college, where mutual contempt turns to friendship, the story follows them as they must choose either a life in service to the dictato-

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Kristin Chenoweth and Idina Menzel in San Francisco

Richard Sacks

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mezzo Dolora Zajick and tenor Richard Margison.

Several community groups will attend the opera as a way of providing incentives to their donors, including GLAAD, NCLR, AEP, International GL Human Rights Campaign and the Pacific Center. The sold-out event will include a prize for best costume.

We're told there will be beautiful boys and drag queens acting as volunteer hosts. Seems likely to be as much spectacle in the boxes and balconies as on the War Memorial's grand stage.

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We feel our gay pride tumescent

by Roberto Friedman

Ain't just that time of year when you're more and more glad to be gay? It sure has been a stellar year for gay filmmaker **Gus Van Sant**, whose Columbine reverie *Elephant* took the Cannes Film Fest awards for *Palme D'Or* and Best Director, making him Big Man at Cannes.

Van Sant, who spends a lot of free time here in SF, gave a preview of the film at the Castro back in December as part of Frameline's *Close-Up: Visionaries of Modern Cinema* series. He was interviewed onstage by film critic **Elvis Mitchell** and ended the program with a 10-minute clip of the film, which he was in the process of editing at the time.

So the epic saga of gay cinema soldiers on. Frameline's 27th San Francisco International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival unspools June 12-29. Tickets are already on sale to the general public (info at www.frameline.org).

Now on to the sort of our gay fellows who make us proud to be breathing the same June air. Emmy nominee and Broadway entertainer **Seth Rudetsky** is one such queer comrade-in-arms. A portion of ticket sales to his Off-Broadway comedy, *Rhapsody in Seth*, are being donated to the lesbian and gay civil rights advocacy group Empire State Pride Agenda in the name of US Senator and homophobe **Rick Santorum**. The resulting Senator Rick Santorum Education Fund automatically makes Bigoted Rick one of the major donors to the group.

Rudetsky told the press, "This is a great honor for Senator Santorum, and let me tell you, he has really earned it! Every night at *Rhapsody*, the crowd goes nuts when I mention his name and an-

ounce our donation to the Fund in his honor."

Up from Down Under

Is this also sexy wolverine **Hugh Jackman**'s moment in the sun, or what? The pre-publicity is already running in the NY press for Jackman's star appearance in that upcoming B'way musical about entertainer (and one of **Liza Minnelli**'s gay husbands) **Peter**

Allen, The Boy from Oz. It's already been a huge success in Allen's native Australia, but without Jackman. He looks great in the full-page color ad, kicking up a leg with a come-and-get-it light in his eyes.

But One Who Knew

Him says HJ, while lovely, looks nothing like Allen, as he's "too slicked up." Peter always looked like he was on a bender, and Hugh has nothing of Peter's charisma; in a photo like this, to sell a Broadway show, Peter would be blazing; Hugh is only smiling. Perhaps he should have done it with his pants off?

Yes, but we hope our readers caught the *Times' Arts & Leisure* a few Sundays ago, with a big photo of our new Imaginary Friend, **Matt Cavenaugh** ("Urban Cowboy"), in his tighty whities, basket-a-bulgin! Out There was shocked, shocked, but at the same time, "highly stimulated!" God, we're glad to be gay!

A night at the opera

Glad, too, to live in San Francisco, where major arts organizations like the SF Opera and community rep palaces like the Castro Theatre are always looking out for our gay needs.

In an effort to introduce more members of SF's diverse LGBT community to opera, SF Opera has planned a special *Gay and Lesbian Night*. Approximately 1,100 guests are expected to attend the dress rehearsal of *Verdi's Il Trovatore* on Wednesday, June 11, at 6:15 p.m. The cast is headed by soprano **Marina Mescheriakova**,



Soprano **Marina Mescheriakova**



Bruce Monk

From Guy Maddin's *Dracula*

Meanwhile, after two weeks of showing **Matthew Barney** films, the Castro continues in an artsy vein with Canadian cult filmmaker **Guy Maddin**'s cinematic ballet, *Dracula, Pages from a Virgin's Diary* (June 6-11). We saw Maddin's *Careful* in '92 and were hooked; his oeuvre includes *Tales from Gimli Hospital*, *Cowards Bend the Knee* and *Sissy-Boy Slap Party*. Fangs for the memories!

In *Dracula*, fab auteur Maddin sets the Royal Winnipeg Ballet's dance of **Bram Stoker**'s classic novel, choreographed by **Mark Godden**, to the music of **Gustav Mahler**, in the form of a black-, white-and-red silent movie, complete with title cards. Now, is that possibly gay enough?

B&W world

The '03 edition of SF Symphony's **Black & White Ball** was an irrepressible display of glorious hedonism. This year, sponsor Mercedes chauffeured the highest rollers around from venue to venue. Champers & tender vittles galore for everyone, an embarrassment of decadent riches, while outside in Civic Center, the usual Calcutta of homelessness. The rich/poor divide gets ever steeper.

Still, Out There swelled with civic pride in our gilded City Hall as **Michael Tilson Thomas** led members of the **SF Symphony** into a Viennese waltz while our very own Congressperson and Minority Leader of the US Senate, **Nancy Pelosi**, spun radiantly for the first dance.

Prince's corner

In an interview with the UK's *Daily Telegraph*, **Prince William**, soon to be 21, revealed he's been voted water polo captain at St. Andrews University, which was runner-up in the Scottish Cup. "I play lots of water polo, I love my water polo," he said. "I'm not quite doing enough exercise, I'm still pretty unfit. But I like lots of swimming. I love my water sports."

The Prince has included homosexual, we mean art appreciation in his studies. "I did do my A-level History of Art dissertation on **Leonardo da Vinci**'s drawings which, of course, are in the Royal Collection, so I was very lucky," he told the *Tele*. Very lucky, indeed, as not everyone's Grandma owns such a great little collection of pictures.

In fact, we're ever more worried about the state of British public education. As evidence, we're indebted to *Private Eye* for the following exchange on BBC2's *The Weakest Link*.

Host **Anne Robinson**: "Cromagnon was an early form of which mammal, which now numbers in the billions?"

Contestant: "Crabs." ▼

OPERA

Come for the sex, stay for the singing!

SF Opera's 'tail-end' summer season begins

by Stephanie von Buchau

The "Wag the Dog" end of the San Francisco Opera's 2002-03 season is upon us, and it is shaping up as a paradigm of the new SFO regime, with its financial troubles and its boldly stated artistic goals. *Damnation of Faust* is a new production, opening June 10 in honor of Hector Berlioz's 200th birthday. Since the composer called it a "dramatic legend" rather than an opera, some say it shouldn't be staged, yet it's as viable as (and a lot shorter than) Messiaen's visionary but undramatic *Saint Francois d'Assise* or even Saint-Saëns' static but delicious *Samson et Dalila*.

Gossip emanating from the War Memorial (all anonymous, of course) tells us nothing about the musical performance, centering instead on excessive stage rehearsals (at the expense of the other two summer operas), and on prosthetic T&A and oral sex. Nothing new there. Terry McEwen and Loft Mansouri both loved nudity, prosthetic penises, orgies and other giggly ways to *épater le bourgeois*. Remember the divinely decadent *Salomé*, when the guards in thongs turned around to expose their bare butts? Or the salacious *Mefistofele* that sported more prosthetics than an Army rehab ward?

It is impossible to shock a San Franciscan with simulated sex, though of course you can't expect newly arrived Germans to know that. More annoying is the smug assumption that we will be shocked. It is probably this unwarranted smugness about SFO audiences — that we don't know anything about theater; that we've never experienced the avant garde; that we are titillated by fake sex; and that we need to be taught how to appreciate opera — that is causing a gap between what Pamela Rosenberg is legitimately trying to improve, and what it sometimes looks like she has actually achieved.

Before she was even in office, Rosenberg made the tactical error of declaring that she was bringing San Francisco the great experience of Janacek, as if no one in the Bay Area had ever heard a live Janacek opera. That was anti-historical nonsense, though you'd be amazed how many local writers who should know better swallowed it whole. Not only had SFO

started performing Janacek in the mid-'60s, a quarter of a century before the Metropolitan Opera tackled the Czech composer, but if you count efforts by maestro Kent Nagano, the Bay Area also heard such rarities as *The Excursions of Mr. Broucek* and a charmingly staged *Cunning Little Vixen*, to go with SFO's multiple *Kat'a Kabanova*, *Makropolous Affair* and *Jenufa* productions.

The out-of-town press and those scary opera chat rooms on the Internet have joined local critics in unnecessarily exacerbating the distance between SFO's general director and her audience by crowning that Rosenberg was going to wake up those somnolent folks in the War Memorial. My favorite insult was from the *Los Angeles Times* critic, hardly an experienced SFO patron, who claimed that the Rosenberg regime had "startled the 89-year-old company awake from a decades-long slumber."

Really? Where was he when SFO offered the United States premieres of such then-rare operas as *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, *Makropolous Affair* and the revised version of *Lady Macbeth of Mzensk*? Or when Jean-Pierre Ponnelle was being enthusiastically cheered and booted for his vivid *Flying Dutchman* and *Pagliacci*, creative productions of warhorses with the sex implied, as it is in the music.

Of course, *Pagliacci* starred Plácido Domingo, in the finest performance I've ever heard or seen him give. This season's scheduled *Pagliacci* stars Jon Fredric West, whose Otello debacle last year should have made him automatically persona non grata on Van Ness Avenue. I suggest that most regular SFO patrons aren't provincial conservatives who want only to hear warhorses, but rather, discerning listeners who prefer their warhorses well-cast.

Rube behavior

The other two summer operas also yield provocative subtext. Mansouri hired the talented Peruvian leggiere tenor Juan Diego Florez, and Rosenberg paired him with the delectable Italian mezzo, Sonia Ganassi, for Rossini's *La Cenerentola*. Perfect, except that then Ganassi canceled. When SFO came up with replacement Mika Shigematsu, I got a bunch of indignant e-mails asking the equivalent of, "Who she?" Well, if you



Peruvian tenor Juan Diego Florez



Blockbusting mezzo Dolora Zajick, from Reno, stars in *Il Trovatore*.

don't want the Internet and *Los Angeles Times* to make fun of you as an operatic rube, don't act like one. Shigematsu, for those with short memories, outsang and outacted the formidable Jennifer Lamore in *Barbiere* at the Orpheum in 1996. Of course, that is a much smaller house and it was seven years ago, but it was a good enough performance to give me hope for the June 7 opening night.

Star of this summer's *Il Trovatore* is blockbusting mezzo Dolora Zajick, a singer who was casually neglected by the Mansouri regime. Living in Reno, she should have been here as often as the stagedoor cat, yet she appeared only a few, memorable times. She is practically the only international mezzo currently up to the major Verdi roles, especially now that Olga

Borodina appears to be a lost cause at the War Memorial. Of course, if Rosenberg doesn't bring Zajick back, either, we have yet another case of the same ole, same ole.

Still, the point is that the bickering over casting and repertory is not nearly as important as how long the trend toward borrowed productions with decades-old European sensibilities and very expensive stage rehearsals will continue, and whether the company's well-publicized financial woes cause further erosion of public

trust. Ruthlessly eliminating administrative deadwood was a great start, but there is an orchestral contract renewal due in August. This is where opera fans would be wise to keep their attention fixed. Prosthetic penises and lousy tenors come and go; it could be argued that they are one and the same. Opera without oboe and strings is impossible. ▼

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THEATRE

Delightful effects

'Thwak' is full of shtick that works

by Richard Dodds

A flash of panic crossed my companion's face when, after taking our seats in the Post Street Theater, he began reading the program. "Are these the penis guys?" he demanded, recalling another pair of Australian mates with unusual talents who played the same venue, then known as Theatre on the Square. Rest assured, *Thwak* is no *Puppetry of the Penis*, though it's harder to define than that cockamamie contraption.

Picture a *Road Runner* cartoon

imagined by Bill Irwin, and you may get some idea of the spirit behind *Thwak*. David Collins and Shane Dundas, billed as the Umbilical Brothers, combine vocal mimicry with physical shtick to create the funniest 90 minutes in town. With an onstage dynamic reminiscent of the Smothers Brothers, Collins and Dundas each tries to control their imaginary world. If one begins to get the upper hand, the other may simply create a chainsaw, invisible but uncannily realistic in its sound. The microphone becomes the totem of power, because in this dimension, sound is the ultimate reality.

At the start of the show, curly-haired Collins, who plays the dimmer of the two bulbs, gets in a few words before he's reminded by the bald Dundas that his job is to be mute. "He says mute," replies Collins. "I say action guy." And for most of the show, Collins does indeed supply the physical action to accompany Dundas' exquisitely synchronized vocalized sound effects.

Their skits are often subversively juvenile. When an invisible hand grenade is thrown into the audience, it's fetched by an invisible dog who returns it to the horrified Collins and Dundas, who then throw the dog into the air where it harmlessly explodes. And then they offer a slow-motion replay of the scene. I won't go into the scene that involves Kermit the Frog and a sizzling barbecue.

Not everything they do is about sound and action. Dundas and Collins do an amazing hand ballet from behind a low panel, which also serves as the stage for a puppet show involving a bunny gone bonkers.

There are a few dips in the



David Collins and Shane Dundas are the Umbilical Brothers in *Thwak*.

merriment, but that can be a good thing in a show as funny as *Thwak*. A break is sometimes needed to keep your smiling face from hurting. ▼

Thwak will run at the Post Street Theatre through June 22. Tickets are \$25-\$45. Call 321-2900 or go to www.poststreettheatre-sf.com.

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'Wicked' women

◀ Arts cover

rial Wizard, or becoming part of an underground opposition.

"She's a rebel and an outcast," Menzel said of her supposedly wicked character. "Elphaba was born green, people treat her badly, and she doesn't have many friends. But deep down, she's extremely idealistic. She thinks there is a possibility to change the world. She needs to be different, so it's OK if my influences are a little bit different."

Glinda is also more complicated than the cheery good witch from the Oz books and movie. "In the first act," Chenoweth said, "Glinda is what you'd expect her to be. In the second act, she's not. I get to give people what they expect of me, and then something that they don't. And maybe not be ready for."

In person, Chenoweth has the kind of well-scrubbed prom-queen cheeriness that the writers of the musical *Wicked*, librettist Winnie Holzman and songwriter Stephen Schwartz, have satirically amplified for her character. Chenoweth was a big hometown star in Tulsa before moving to New York nine years ago. Her big break came when she was singled out for the highest praise in the revival of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, and her performance as 4-year-old Sally Brown earned her a Tony Award.

More recently, Chenoweth turned down the title role in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* — "I've done the *Millies*," she said — for a chance to star in her own TV sitcom. But *Kristin*, built around a bubbly religious character not unlike herself, aired only for seven episodes before it was replaced by *Fear Factor*.

"One of the episodes was about her best friend being gay, and how she could still call herself a person of faith," Chenoweth said. It mirrored her relationship with her own best friend from Tulsa, who became her roommate after they moved to New York. "We are *Will & Grace*," said the former Southern Baptist whose religious views are now more in-



"It's a love story between these two women in a way," said Menzel, right.

clusive. She also has a straight man in her life, actor Michael Lowry from *All My Children*.

Menzel also had a roommate in New York, and his name was Taye Diggs. They met in the original cast of *Rent*, in which Menzel played the hard-rocking lesbian Maureen. Now they are married.

In one of the songs from her 1998 rock album *Still I Can't Be Still*, Menzel sang about wearing Diggs' "old tighty whities," an image of some appeal, for fans of the sexy Diggs.

Is it strange for Menzel to be married to a man who is often presented on screen as a hunk whom others lust after? "No, but I think it's weird for him," she said, "because deep down he's never thought of himself like that kind of guy. He still sort of has the nerd in him."

In another song from her self-penned album, she imagines a planet where, among other things, "the lawyers wear nipple rings."

"Oh, God, that's right," Menzel said when reminded of that lyric. "At that time I was really vacillating between the kinds of men I wanted in my life. Do you want that conservative, stable guy that bores the hell out of you, or the artsy guy who makes you crazy

and passionate but breaks your heart a million times? Now I've found that I can have both. My honey has a great balance. He has no nipple rings and is not a lawyer, but the lawyer boyfriend I just ran into with his Volkswagen jeep and a baby seat in the back, and I thanked my lucky stars."

Menzel and Chenoweth love that they are so different and that their differences register on stage.

"Idina's more of a rock 'n' roll singer, and I'm more legit theater," Chenoweth said. "She's probably a little bit more, not free, I'm free too, but just different, and I think it really works for the parts."

"You would never think our voices would be a great blend when we sing together," Menzel said, "but they really are beautiful together. I think you'll see a real chemistry and rapport in the relationship on stage. We have that in real life. We love each other. And it's a love story between these two women in a way, which you don't see very much in musicals." ▼

Wicked will run through June 29 at the Curran Theatre. Tickets are \$30-\$85. Call 512-7770.

THEATRE

Prick up your ears

'Cocksucker: A Love Story' at Rhino

by Richard Dodds

It's easy to pigeonhole Ronnie Larsen and his plays, but the fact is you never quite know what to expect. Even his work that seems the most exploitative, plays with titles like *10 Naked Men* and *All-Male Peep Show*, contain thoughtful if dark musings on the nature of gay sex and relationships. He is now back at Theatre Rhino with a title that is about as in-your-face as you can get, *Cocksucker: A Love Story*, but again he gives you more than what you may have bargained for.

The new play is being sold as the story of Marines who moonlight in jack-off films, but that's a subplot in a tale that seems to be inspired by Larsen's own journeys through the sexual thickets of contemporary life. It is frank and revealing, and self-serving only to the extent that Larsen's on-stage alter-ego is presented as no more sexually obsessed than, say, Bill Clinton and Monica Lewinsky, who turn up as recurring characters.

The play opens fitfully with a documentary-film conceit that soon disappears, but it does announce the play's pivotal arc: "The birth and death of the she-male Sally." From that point, we follow Isaac as an adopted baby with a penchant for thumb-sucking that turns into sucking off the neighborhood kids before he discovers the joys of glory holes. What he likes best are straight men, and he finds if he suits up as a woman, even a less-than-convincing one, his odds increase dramatically.

"I'm not a transvestite," he says. "I do it to get straight cock."

It's a necessary evil."

Isaac discovers the power of a wig and a dress after getting picked up by a burly truck driver, and then announces himself as "Truck Stop Sally" on the CB. He finds there is plenty of cock to suck along the Interstate. But it's surprising how benign, even gentle, these scenes turn out to be.

Ah, but what about the Marines? The play regularly returns to a pair of new recruits, childhood friends who end up together at the Marine base in Oceanside. Harry is eternally horny, Josh less so. While waiting for Harry to finish up his session with a whore, Josh encounters Isaac in his Sally guise, and while he turns down an immediate blow job, he asks to see Sally again.

The Sally-dates-a-Marine plot may strain credibility, but not as much as the convenient coincidence of Isaac's best friend being a budding pornmaker who tricks Josh and Harry into "auditioning" for an imaginary straight-porn project. What this twist does provide is the opportunity to get Josh and Harry out of their clothes and to amply display their buff naked bodies.

Human behavior

Like all of Larsen's plays that seem to celebrate sex and flesh, there is a melancholy, even rebuking undercurrent. But Larsen is a smart writer, and much of the humor comes from the recognizably human foibles of his characters. The end is wistful and tragic and abrupt.

Using pop music to humorously comment on the action, Larsen has directed his play with his usual assurance. The cast is in

tune with the play's happy-sad spirit, and there are a number of standout performances.

As Isaac/Sally, Octavio Saez de Ibarra creates a character who is sweetly engaging and humorously self-effacing even when on the prowl for cock. Josh Feinman is sexy and believably conflicted as Josh, while Eric Womack projects enthusiastic male bravado as his Marine buddy. Randel Hart turns up amusingly as Bill Clinton, but his best work is his sweet performance as the trucker who befriends Sally.

There is able support from Michaela Greeley as Hillary Clinton and Dr. Laura, Anna Loar as Monica Lewinsky, and Ronnie Kerr as Isaac's porn-making friend.

Cocksucker: A Love Story is Larsen's most personally revealing play to date, and its 95 minutes are packed with comedy, drama, romance, sex, satire, tragedy, and social commentary. All in all, it's quite a feat. ▶



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Murder, they said

'The Daddy, the Diva, and the Detective'

by Richard Dodds

A spanking new red jockstrap, size LG, sits next to my computer as I write this. It was a prize for sitting at the table that best solved the crimes committed over the course of *The Daddy, the Diva, and the Detective*. A big asset to our table's success was Idajane, a mystery-dinner veteran who lives in a Catholic retirement home in San Leandro and does volunteer work in seasonal costumes. It's hard to drive a car in a leprechaun outfit, she told us, and impossible when dressed as a turkey.

Idajane, who received a rose rather than a jockstrap, exemplified the surprisingly diverse audience at the Archbishop's Mansion

on Alamo Square for an entertainment being marketed mainly to the gay community. Indeed, several other suburban types looked surprised to be surrounded by leather daddies and drag queens (costuming is encouraged), though by the end of the evening they were laughing out loud as former Empresses Bella and Marlena tossed out occasional *bon mots* that helped enliven the semi-scripted shenanigans.

Of course, murder-mystery dinners are a mainstream staple, and the Archbishop's Mansion has hosted others in the past under the aegis of Jim Skiba's *Incentives to Intrigue*. But with a cast headed by Donna Sachet (Empress XXX) and Lenny Broberg (International Mr. Leather of 1992), and a title

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Gone but not forgotten

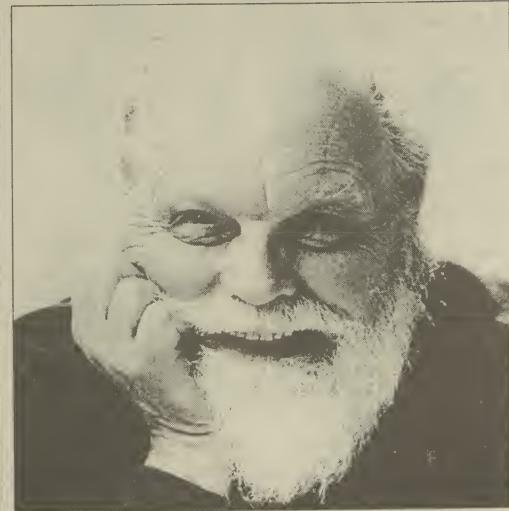
Lou Harrison tribute at Edge Festival

by Jason Serinus

Five premieres of music by the late Lou Harrison will highlight the final day of Cal Performances' June 5-8 first biennial festival of contemporary music. The festival's five concerts, held in UC Berkeley's Hertz Hall, focus on the works of living California composers, most of whom will be present to either discuss or play their works.

The idea for alternating the Edge Festival of Contemporary Music with the long-established biennial Berkeley Early Music Festival and Exposition germinated for 10 years before achieving fruition. After some generous donors came forward to make the first festival possible, Berkeley pianist Sarah Cahill suggested to Cal Performances Director Robert Cole that the initial festival focus on the trajectory of California's living composers.

"Lou Harrison was a logical choice," Cahill told the BAR. "Choreographer Mark Morris and *Los Angeles Times* music critic Mark Swed also suggested him. Both said that Lou probably didn't have a long time to live, and it was important to celebrate him while he was still alive."



Gay composer Harrison wished to hear premieres of five gamelan pieces.

Cahill contacted Harrison, who said he most wished to hear premieres of five gamelan pieces he had just finished. These works turned out to be the last works the 85-year-old completed before his death on February 2, 2003. Had he

not died as he and his new lover were enroute to a weeklong festival of his music at Ohio State University, Lou certainly would have contributed his brilliant, jovial presence to the proceedings.

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Sonatas at gale force

Perahia, Lewis tackle Schubert

by Tim Pfaff

Poor, dying Schubert, with poverty, syphilis and genius in equal amounts, could not have imagined a day when recordings of his music would make a landslide as big as those of his idol, Beethoven. But the gay composer once viewed as "Beethoven lite" is once again represented in a dizzying array of CDs, particularly

of the piano works. Two hot-off-the-press new recordings of the late sonatas, by pianists Murray Perahia (Sony Classical) and Paul Lewis (Harmonia Mundi), yield obvious points of comparison while indicating where Schubert interpretation is (and isn't) going these days.



On the shelf, Perahia's two-CD set of the last three sonatas looked like a welcome return of the pianist to repertoire suited to his special if limited talents. Off the shelf, it's just more point- (rather than music-) making by a once-important artist whose thumb seems to have healed well before his soul. Listening to it, I was reminded of a colleague's remark about Renée Fleming's latest CD: that it suggested that she'd lost her voice, she'd lost her mind.

A signature characteristic of Schubert's piano music is its mercurial shifts of mood and character. Perahia turns these sturdily constructed if时常 volatile works into the rantings of a seemingly bipolar sensibility. Think Ralph Fiennes' Spider on the keys. It's hard work simply hanging in with these interpretations, so often do they erupt into abrupt outbursts of rage. Perahia, who seems to be using Kubler-Ross' model of the stages of death

(rather than Schubert's scores) as his way into these pieces, clearly is not going gently into that good night.

I suppose a case could be made for that. But more disconcerting by far are the lighter interludes Schubert so generously sprinkles over these musical journeys into life's extremes. Usually they come like shafts of light breaking through the pervasive gloom, but Perahia seems to see them as the more hebephrenic side of madness. Where other pianists have given them a buoyant, even whimsical air, Perahia makes them downright loopy. Instead of oases in a parched emotional landscape, they're little musical hells where the hopeless whistle off-key. *Per se*, the playing is fine. Self-assurance and prestidigitation abound. Fans will faint.

Arrival time

Listeners with an ear for what else lies hidden in these unfathomable works will find more to sustain them in Paul Lewis' searching accounts of the final two sonatas. A young pianist would normally be ill-advised to undertake these sonatas this early (though the blue jeans-clad Lewis is probably already older than Schubert was when he wrote them). But Lewis' having already played the complete Schubert sonatas (at London's Wigmore Hall, no less) explains why these arrestingly mature readings sound so "arrived at" rather than rushed into.

Not that they're not propulsive. The first thing one notices about Lewis' playing is its forward thrust, impulsive but not reckless, and infused with a sense of much to say, little time to say it, and the

next page ►

MUSIC

From romance to tragedy

SF Symphony revisits Wagner, Weill, Weimar years

by Philip Campbell

Ever since 1995, when Michael Tilson Thomas took the lead at the San Francisco Symphony, there has been an exciting succession of interesting summer festivals. From *American Mavericks* to individual composers and national traditions, local audiences have come to expect the unexpected.

This year holds special promise as the SFS prepares for *Innocence Undone: Wagner, Weill and the Weimar Years*. The series runs from June 11-22 with multiple performances of three separate programs. Tickets are already on sale at the SFS Box Office or online at their website.

It would be difficult to choose one concert over another, but individual taste may narrow the field if attendance is limited by budgetary or scheduling problems. One bill is devoted to a semi-staged opera; another to orchestral works (with a song cycle for variety), and the third to German cabaret.

The splashiest production will be the concert reading of Richard Wagner's first fully-fledged operatic masterpiece, *The Flying Dutchman*. The "innocence" mentioned in the festival's title surely relates to this groundbreaking romantic drama of love and redemption that signaled Wagner as one of the great geniuses in the history of Western music.

Whatever one thinks of Wagner the man — the anti-Semitic,

adulterer and wrongheaded champion of dubious political causes — there can be little argument regarding his music.

The Flying Dutchman tells the story of a phantom sea-captain who must forever sail away in search of a perfect love who can break the spell and save his soul. The opera contains the hallmarks of Wagner's stylistic innovations. The memorable opening of the magnificent overture, depicting a great storm at sea, and the many illuminating strokes given to the orchestra must have thrilled early audiences.

The composer developed the idea of leitmotiv more fully with each successive opera, but the identifying and illustrative character themes are all evident in the remarkably melodic first attempt. The long but absorbing score should be well-served by baritone Mark Delavan as the Dutchman and soprano Jane Eaglen as Senta, both making their SFS debuts. Mezzo-soprano Jill Grove, bass Stephen Milling and tenors Mark Baker and Eric Cutler also appear under the direction of Peter McClintock, who pleased greatly with his semi-staged Rimsky-Korsakoff *Mlada* last summer. (6/11, 13, 15, 19, 21)

Tragic nation

The Weimar Republic could be viewed as a democratic attempt by Germany to renew itself after the self-inflicted ravages of World War I, or as a social experiment gone horribly wrong. Whatever can be deduced in hindsight would be



Soprano Jane Eaglen: absorbing

hard to describe briefly or objectively. The chronology of events that led to the rise of Nazism and the brutal subjugation of Hitler's chosen enemies is complicated and disturbing.

The festival covers the chain of events through music and composers who fell victim to the cruelty of the regime. Thankfully, the writers featured in the second program, June 14, all managed to flee the Nazis. Wagner was already dead.

Ernest Toch, who settled in Los Angeles in 1933, will be heard in two pieces. "The Bunte Suite" and "The Chinese Flute" featuring soprano Laura Claycomb are receiving their first SFS performances. Other Symphony premieres include Schoenberg's *Herzegewächse* and a Wagner work written for the composer's children to sing to his wife, Cosima. His *Siegfried Idyll* was a birthday gift to Cosima, and MTT has added it to the concert.

The final concert of the series is reportedly a hard ticket already, due to the appearance of German chanteuse Ute Lemper. The cool Dietrichesque beauty will open

the program with popular songs of the period, in their original orchestrations, by Friedrich Hollander and Mischa Spoliansky.

The male vocal ensemble Hudson Shad, joining Lemper in Kurt Weill and Bertolt Brecht's *The Seven Deadly Sins*, will heighten the cabaret atmosphere. The quintet is modeled after the Comedian Harmonists, famous in Germany until the Nazis banned them because of the Jewish ethnicity of one member. The original singers were marvelous, portrayed beautifully in the film *The Harmonists* (available, but hard to find on DVD). I'm happy Hudson Shad continues their delightful tradition. (6/20, 22)

Of course, the Nazis also proscribed Weill's music. Forbidden or *entartete* music was featured in a fabulous series of recordings by



Chanteuse Ute Lemper: 'Deadly'

Decca records, tragically cut short by the hard times that have befallen the classical music industry. MTT and the SFS are not letting that stand in their way. The tradition of featuring maverick composers in a summer festival continues, and this year looks especially exciting. ▼

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Schubert CDs

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devil at his heels (*à la* "Der Erlkönig"). The rhythmic elasticity of his playing is *eicht-Romantic* and perfectly gauged to this restless, oddly defiant music. But there's never a sense of speed for exhibitionism's sake. What it's about is that thing vocal coaches used to call "energy in the line." Lewis is it in spades.

The young English pianist's default is a robust, vibrant tone, but his real achievement is in his full range of expression, which also embraces the most ethereal of sentiments. Midway through the opening Allegro of the A-major Sonata, a line comes rumbling out of the bass like a gush of hot lava and then, over an unbroken even course, disappears into the mists of the high treble. Hearing it is like being physically stretched, and, in the minuscule rest that follows the figure, you experience it again, in retrospect and in silence.

Schubert lovers will start with the disc's second sonata, Schubert's last, in B-flat minor, and

they won't be disappointed by Lewis' towering interpretation. He takes the long, opening dirge in a single breath, and returns to it as to the bedside of dying friend. It's everything you want in a Schubert B-flat, the equal of any recording in the catalog today.

But it's his A-major that haunts. Uchida's reading seemed unsurpassable, but Lewis finds as much in the piece as she, albeit with his own distinctive voice. The off-kilter Andantino, as wrenching a piece as "Der Leiermann," the terminal song in *Winterreise*, is almost unbearably well-characterized by this remarkable young pianist who, like Schubert, seems wise far beyond his years. ▼

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OUT&ABOUT



Queer Latina and mixed-race artists respond to same-sex domestic violence in *Size of Her Rage* at The Center. See Friday.

Calendare by Mark Mardon

Events galore!

I'd love to wax philosophical about state the world, as usual, but there's just too much going on. The calendar is packed! So let's get right to it.

In the East Bay, at the "Berkeley Edge Fest" of New Music curated by Sarah Cahill, they're offering "A Tribute to Lou Harrison" at Hertz Hall on the UC Berkeley campus. Harrison is of course a great gay icon in the New Music sphere, acclaimed for experimenting with new musical forms. This concert premieres five gamelan works. Jody Diamond will lead 20 musicians performing on Mills College's "extended range" gamelan which Harrison constructed with William Covig. The concert takes place Sunday, June 8 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$22 through Cal Performances, 510-642-9988; www.calperfs.berkeley.edu.

It's dyke-heaven time in San Francisco with all the dyke-led, queer-themed performance happening. I have it on good authority that one of the best acts coming up is "Hair-trigger Heart," a multimedia play by *Ida Acton and Company*, starring Shar Rednour, Shoshana Von Blankensee, Jules Wilt, and Marcy Coburn. It's the story of Haskal J. Lonesome, a lost and lonely gender-dysphoric lower-class anti-hero attempting to find comfort and homeland as he details his travels and sorrows in poetic letters to the girl he left back home. The show takes place June 6, 7, 13 & 14 at *Span-ganga*, 3376 19th St. (between Mission & Capp). Tickets are \$8-\$20 sliding. Call 841-8817.

At *ODC Theater* (3153 17th St.), June 11-15, *Koichi and Hiroko Tamano and Harupin-Ha Butoh Dance Theatre* present "Eclipse," a work honoring celebrations and funerals. Butoh made its way to the U.S. largely due to Koichi and Hiroko Tamano's arrival in Berkeley, California in 1978. In "Eclipse," the Tamanos "create a landscape that evokes sensation... expanding time into a dreamlike state... like the pathway of a lunar eclipse." The opening night gala/reception takes place at 8 p.m. on June 11. Tickets are \$25. Phone 863-9834.

Over at *The LAB* (2948 16th St.), on June 6, 7, 13 and 14 at 9 p.m., *Mary Armentrout and Merlin Coleman* perform "Dreaming Out Loud Again," the fruits of their recent genre-bending, gender role-morphing forays into the collective unconscious, the battle of the sexes, and the troubled American political psyche of the moment. It offers Armentrout's dance theater piece "The New World," a dream collage installation in which six performers deconstruct everyday activities, and composer/performer Coleman's dramatic poetic solos. Tickets are \$10-\$20 sliding. Call 864-8855.

At *Dance Mission Theater* (3316 24th St.), *Navarrete x Kajiyama Dance Theater* performs "Ghost Memories," in which Mexican-born choreographer José Navarrete and Japanese-American choreographer Debby Kajiyama examine cross-cultural connections through traditions and rituals surrounding death and the afterlife as manifested in Mexico's *Dia de los Muertos* and Japan's *Obon Festival*. The program runs June 12-15, with shows at 8 p.m. Thu.-Sat., and 6 p.m. on Sun. Call 273-4633. ▼

Fri 6

Sonoma County Pride Weekend

Kickoff: The Sonoma County Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee in partnership with We Mean It Productions and Club FAB presents "Peace Through Pride," the Sonoma County Lesbian and Gay Pride Parade and Celebration, Friday, June 6-Sunday, June 8. Tonight: Lupe presents a "Pride Kick-Off Dance Party for Women and Their Friends" at Club FAB at the Russian River. DJ M'Onika spins. \$8 cover. Info: 707-483-2589; www.sonomapride.com

'Saint Harvey'

@ Museum of GLBT History
Opening: "Saint Harvey: The Life and Afterlife of a Modern Gay Martyr," the inaugural exhibit of the Museum of GLBT History, a project of the GLBT Historical Society. A documentation of Milk's life as well as his afterlife in our cultural consciousness. 657 Mission St., 3rd Floor. Info: 777-5455; www.glbthistory.org

Liquid Fire's 'WET'

@ The Center
National Queer Arts Festival (NQAF) and Liquid Fire Productions present "WET," a sultry evening of erotic expression by queer women of color. Created and directed by Veronica C. Combs. Featuring Michelle Bolong, Combs, Teresa R. Ellis, Maija Garcia, Kaylah Marin, Celeste Pearl, Lolan Sevilla, Frances Sedaya, Allegra Bandy, Rachel R. Rodriguez, guest MCs and more. \$10-\$20 sliding. 8pm. Also on June 7. Ceremonial Room, SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. (at Octavia). Tix/info: 334-0722; queerculturalcenter.org

'Size of Her Rage'

@ The Center
NQAF Event: "The Size of Her Rage," in which queer Latina and mixed-race artists respond to domestic violence, focusing on violence in same-gender female couples, with artists Bertha Amador, Cathy Arellano, Veronica Majano, Gigi Olivalvo-Hormillosa, and Karla E. Rosales. Sponsored by Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida, QueLA Co (Queer Latino/a Artists Coalition), QCC, APICC and the (a)eromestiza project. \$7-\$12 sliding. 8pm. Also on June 7. Rainbow Room, SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. (at Octavia). Tix/info: 334-0722; queerculturalcenter.org

'Dyke Night & Gaze' @ 848

Tara Brandel and Jessica Robinson curate "Dyke Nights and Gaze," with spoken word by Melina Baines, performance/visual art by Victoria McNichol Kelly, vocalizing by Toni Pope and friends, handbalancing by Jade Blue Eclipse, and acapella singing by Copperwinmin (Friday) and Kristi Martel (Saturday). Tara Brandel performs an extract from her new show "Love Dance." Party afterwards with the all female trip-hop trio Kayatrip. Plus: "Gaze," an art exhibition (thru June 30) by Queer Women, with photography by Desiree Lymbertos and Su Evers, assemblage by Atiba Thomas, and ceramics by Catherine Rinaldo. \$12-\$15 sliding (NOTAFLOF). 8:30pm. Also on June 7. 848 Community Space, 848 Divisadero St. (at McAllister). Tix/info: 922-2385; www.848.com/dykenights

'Queer Art' @ City Art

Opening reception: "Queer Art," in which City Art Cooperative Gallery showcases both art by queer-identified artists, whether or not it has a queer theme, and queer-themed art, whether or not the artist who made it identifies as queer. Participants include Michael Barber, Michelle Blomstedt, Katie Gilmarlin, Monica Lund, Fred McMullen, Camille Porter, Heather Robinson, Matt Sun and Kent Wisner. Free. 7-10pm. Show runs thru June 29. 828 Valencia St. (btwn 19th and 20th). Info: 970-9900; cityart-gallery.org.

Sat 7

Sonoma County Pride Weekend

From noon-6pm the Triple "R" presents the Triple "P" — "Pride Pool Party" — fun in the sun. No cover. At 8pm at the Luther Burbank Center, We Mean It! Productions hosts "Pride Comedy Night," featuring comedians Vickie Shaw, Scott Silverman and Amy Boyd. At 10pm, it's the "Proud Mary Ball" at Club FAB (\$5; free with comedy ticket stub). Info: 707-483-2589; www.sonomapride.com

San Jose Gay Pride Celebration

The San Jose Gay Pride Celebration Committee presents the 28th Annual Gay Pride Celebration. The theme of this year's celebration is "Power of Pride." Today: "Free Community Day in the Park," sponsored by Applied Materials, with performances by on HP main stage by Lisa Dewey, The Wooydz, 2nd Date, and many local talents. Pick-up volleyball sponsored by Rainbow Recreation. Activities for all gay and gay-friendly families. Free. Noon-6pm. Discovery Meadow, downtown San Jose Info: 408-278-5563; www.sjgaypride.org

Gay & Lesbian Sierrans

@ Golden Gate Park

Come picnic with Gay and Lesbian Sierrans, an activity section of the SF Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club. Learn about the group. Bring camping/hiking gear for equipment swap, and your favorite dish or dessert to share. Tables 6 & 7, Lindley Meadow, Golden Gate Park. Info: sfbay.sierraclub.org/GLS

MAX kayaking trip

@ Point Reyes

Join the outgoing guys of Men's Associated Exchange (MAX) for a spring sea kayak trip on Tomales Bay at Pt. Reyes Nat'l Seashore. A beginners-oriented, low-mileage trip led by highly trained kayak guides. Meals cooked by gourmet chefs. \$262 MAX members; \$278 non-members. Info: www.maxonline.org

MAX TGIF @ Argent Hotel

@ John Pence Gallery

Opening reception: "Exposed: The Nude," works by 42 top American Realists. More than 100 drawings & paintings that dispel the notion that nudes are in some way pornographic or not in the vanguard of the realist movement. Free. 6-8:30pm. 750 Post St. Info: 441-1138; johnpence.com

MAX TGIF @ Argent Hotel

@ Jon Sims Center

San Francisco in Exile (SFINX) Live at JSC presents: "Revolution! Brake Here: Unplugged Poetry in the City," featuring a spoken-word hoedown giving the lowdown on queer life among urban poets, with Nyati, Juicy, Carol Hill, and Exodus Williams. \$7-\$12 sliding. 8pm. 1519 Mission St. (at 11th St.). Tix/info: 554-0402; www.jonsimsctr.org

Matteo Imbruno

@ Church of St. John

Organist Matteo Imbruno from Amsterdam performs German and Italian baroque and renaissance music. \$10 (\$5 seniors; students free). 7pm. Episcopal Church of St. John the Evangelist, 15th St. & Julian (near 16th St. BART). Info: 861-1436.

Point Blank Photographers

@ The Center

NQAF Event: Take a guided tour of the building-wide exhibition by the Point Blank Photographer's Group. \$5 (under 18 free). 1pm. Lobby, SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. Tix/info: 334-0722; queerculturalcenter.org

'LGBT Family Expo'

@ The Center

Our Family Coalition presents the "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Family Expo," a public education and resource event with info tables and

(r)Evolution of Gender'

@ SomArts Rear Gallery

NQAF Event: Opening reception for "(r)Evolution of Gender," an exhibition by artists who work with gender — whether androgynous, non-gendered, role-based, transgender or transexual. Feat Jordy Jones, Tim Taylor, Jenny Michals, Teri Claude Dowling, Helen Nguyen, Eliot K. Daughtry, and Kriss De Jong. Curated by Daughtry & De Jong (Killer Banshee Studios). Free. 6-7:30pm. SomArts Rear Gallery, 934 Brannan St. (at 8th St.). Tix/info: 334-0722; queerculturalcenter.org

Smuin Ballet

@ Mountain View Center

Smuin Ballet presents "Come Dance Me a Song," an evening of theatrical dances by Michael Smuin, set to classic ballads by Elton John, including "Goodbye Yellow Brick Road," "Candle in the Wind," "Tiny Dancer," and more. \$35 balcony; \$40 orchestra. 8pm. Also Sat., June 7 (2pm & 8pm) & Sun., June 8 (2pm). Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, Corner of Castro & Mercy sts., Mountain View. Tix: 650-903-6000. Info: 415-495-2234; smuinballet.org

'Exposed: The Nude'

@ John Pence Gallery

Opening reception: "Exposed: The Nude," works by 42 top American Realists. More than 100 drawings & paintings that dispel the notion that nudes are in some way pornographic or not in the vanguard of the realist movement. Free. 6-8:30pm. 750 Post St. Info: 441-1138; johnpence.com

'Queer Swing Jive'

@ The Stud

Queer Jitterbugs offer free dancing from 7:30-10pm, preceded by lessons in basic Progressive East Coast (6:30pm) and intermediate moves (7pm). Lesson package \$5. The Stud Bar, 399 9th St. (at Harrison). Info: 305-8242; queerjitterbugs.com

'Cheap Trick' @ The Stud

After the Swing Jive departs (or hangs around for a different kind of fun), make way for DJs Big Red, Monkeyboy, and Adrian and the Mysterious D for a night of electro, indie, old school, funk, pop, and hot rock. \$6 (free w/college ID). 10pm-4am. Info: clubcheaptick.com

Ggreg's Queer Bonfire

@ Ocean Beach

Join party promoter and bear-lovin' opera queen Greg Taylor for his latest gathering of fags and dykes around a full-moon bonfire. Bring marshmallows, friends and good vibes. Leave no litter. End of Fulton St., just to the south. 8:30pm-midnightish. Info: ggreg.com



"Dyke Night" at 848 Community Space features hand-balancing by Jade Blue Eclipse among many other entertainments. See Friday.

seminar presentations, including legal issues for partners, financial planning issues, home-buying and financing, adoption and donor insemination, non-profit services for LGBT Families and more. Free. 10am-3pm. SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. (at Octavia). Info: Aimee at 981-1960; www.ourfamily.org

Sun 8

Sonoma County Pride Parade & Festival, Santa Rosa

The 13th Annual Sonoma County Pride Parade and Festival takes place in downtown Santa Rosa. Grand Marshals: Bonnie Arthur (board member, California Alliance for Pride and Equality, and the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Educators Network) and Rane Richardson (creator and host of the "OutBeat" radio program on KRCB Radio). Parade starts at noon on Mendocino Ave, near City Hall and ends at the Santa Rosa Junior College. Festival runs 1-5pm. Headliners: Garrin Benfield, the Whoa Nellies, Barbara Higbie and Teresa Trull, and Nedra Johnson. 50+ vendor booths. Children's play area. Parade free to all. Festival entry: \$5-\$10 sliding (NOTAFLOF). Info: 707-483-2589; www.sonomapride.com

Silicon Valley Gay Pride Parade

The Silicon Valley Gay Pride Parade down Market Street from St. John to San Carlos streets in Downtown San Jose. Many community, civic, and business groups will be participating. 10:30am start. Info: 408-278-5563; www.sjgaypride.org

San Jose Gay Pride Festival

The San Jose Gay Pride Celebration Committee presents the 28th Annual Gay Pride Celebration, sponsored by Miller Lite. On the HP Main Stage: Crystal Waters, Suzanne Westenhoefer, CeCe Penniston, The Cheesbecks, Orchestra de Soul, Silicon Valley Gay Men's Chorus and more. Club Papi's "Watergarden Dance Tent" features hot DJs, go-go dancer, and performances by Kim English and Gioia Bruno. The Pro Latino Cultural Garden offers the Mr & Ms Latino Gay Pride contest and the "Club Lidos Show." Plus the SUN Country Western Dance Floor in asso. with Golden State Gay Rodeo Bay Area Chapter. Leather Alley by the Santa Clara County Leather Assn. \$8 adv/\$10 day of. 11am-7:30pm. Discovery Meadow, San Carlos and Oz Way. Info: 408-278-5563; www.sjgaypride.org

David Dehner @ Mission Dolores

Organist David Dehner plays a concert to raise money for the Inter-Club Fund of SF, which grants funds to bikers and members of the leather community struggling with AIDS and other disabilities. \$15 (\$10 seniors; students free). 5pm. Mission Dolores Basilica, 16th & Dolores. Info: 648-4686.

'Fucking With AIDS' @ SomArts Gallery

Opening reception: QueLACo (Queer Latino/a Artists Coalition) and the QCC present "Fucking With AIDS," a visual arts exhibition and reception featuring works by artists celebrating their queerness and Latino heritage. Free. 3-6pm. Front Gallery, SomArts, 934 Brannan St. (at 8th). Info: 334-0722; queerculturalcenter.org

'Sor Juana Project' @ SomArts Theater

QueLACo/NQAF Event: Co-librettists Carla Lucero and Alicia Gaspar de Alba preview their opera-in-progress, *The Sor Juana Project*, composed by Lucero, based on Gaspar Alba's historical novel, *Sor Juana's Second Dream*, about the first great Latin American poet, Sor Juana Inez de la Cruz was also a philosopher, playwright, feminist and Catholic nun who rocked the church and the literary world with her quill and in 17th century New Spain. \$5. 2pm. 934 Brannan St. (at 8th St.). Tix/info: 334-0722; queerculturalcenter.org

brOTHERS @ SomArts Theater

NQAF Event: brOTHERS, a multicultural performance troupe, perform "Taking It to the Street," sketches, poems and monologues challenging misconceptions about who they are as women born male-identified people of color living in a binary, often hostile



"Olive Complexion" (detail), oil on canvas, 2003 by Mikel Glass, part of "Exposed: The Nude" at John Pence Gallery. See Friday.

and heterosexist world. \$7-\$12 sliding. 7pm. 934 Brannan St. (at 8th St.). Tix/info: 334-0722; queerculturalcenter.org

'Tsunami Beer Bust' @ The Eagle Tavern.

Join the men of MAX in support of SF Tsunami Swimmers and Water Polo players. 3pm. 398 12th St. Info: www.maxonline.org

Mon 9

'QComedy Showcase' @ The Center

Jackie Beat hosts, with Karen Ripley, Blake, Dana Cory, Heather Gold, Reanne Roads, and Bridget Schwartz. Beat was featured in Comedy Central's *OUT in Hollywood*, and was a regular in *Character Assassination* along with Margaret Cho, Terry Sweeney, and Nora Dunn. \$10-\$15 sliding. 7pm doors; 8pm show. SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. (at Octavia). Tix/info: 865-5633; www.harveymilk.org; www.Qcomedy.org

'Crookedlett'a' @ Black Box, Oakland

"Crookedlett'a' A/Celebration of Pride," hosted by Tim'm and Bushama, featuring Marvin K. White, Hanifah Walidah, and Deep Dickollective ("BourgieBoho PostPomoAfroHomo"; "Them Niggas Done Went And Said"), plus Philip Huang, Jen-Ro, MC Mitch, Sergio, Toshia Christal, Tim Arevelo, Exodus, and Shannon Matesky. \$10. 8pm doors; 8:30pm showtime. Black Box, 1928 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. Info: jubakalamka@hotmail.com

Tue 10

LGBT parenting @ The Center

The LGBT Family Collaborative presents "Maintaining Effective Co-Parenting Relationships after a Breakup," an evening of free workshops for LGBT Families, sponsored by Our Family Coalition, LYRIC, CO-LAGE, SF LGBT Community Center and New Leaf Services for Our Community. 7-8:30pm. Registration: Aimee at 981-1960. Childcare provided in the KidSpace for youth under 9.

Wed 11

SF Black Film Fest @ BRAVA Theater

Opening night: The San Francisco Black Film Festival (June 11-15), with more than 100 films on an array of subjects from the first Black biker club in the U.S. to the history of Black women in cinema. Special workshops, an awards ceremony, programs for children and surprise celebrity guests. Honoring Billy Dee Williams with the Pioneer Award. Presenting *The Adventures of Aaron Wilkins In Cyberspace* (West Coast premiere), directed by Jason Van Veen (20 min.), and *Everything's Jake* (San Francisco Premiere), directed by Matthew Miele (90 min.), about Jake, a middle-aged African American male who calls New York City home because he lives on the streets. He meets Cameron, a middle aged Caucasian

male who has recently fallen from grace to a life on the streets and everything changes. Filmmaker and cast in attendance. \$35 opening night; 7pm. BRAVA Theater, 2789 24th St. Info: 771-9271; www.sfbff.org

'Gays in the Military' @ The Center

Join Servicemembers Legal Defense Network for an update on "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and how it impacts the GLBT community. Free. 7pm. Info: 420-3996; www.sldnsf.org

Thu 12

'Queer Snapshots' @ The Center

The Harvey Milk Institute presents the latest installment in its "Queer Photo Salon" series curated by Chloe Atkins, celebrating and showcasing images of our communities for future generations. Meet photographers Duane Kramer, Jill Posener, and Jessica Tanzer and experience their work. \$10-\$15 sliding. 7pm reception; 8pm show. SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. (at Octavia). Info: 865-5633; www.harveymilk.org

SF Gay & Lesbian Film Fest @ Castro Theater

Opening night: Frameline launches the "27th San Francisco International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival" with a screening of *Die Mommie Die*, a campy treat offering Charles Busch as bitter fading chanteuse Angela Adams and Jason Priestly as Tony Parker, a well-hung gigolo with an agenda. Frances Conroy spouts scripture as the long-suffering maid. Directed by Mark Rucker. \$75 members; \$100 gen'l. 7:30pm. Tix/info: 925-866-9559; frameline.org

Frameline Gala @ Ferry Building

Opening Night Gala: Frameline invites film-fest goers to join the cast of *Die Mommie Die* at the restored Ferry Building at the foot of Market Street. Complimentary MUNI transport from Castro to Embarcadero station (no organized transport back). 10pm. Tix/info: 925-866-9559; frameline.org

'The Cockettes' @ Main Library

Local Lavender Screen Scene presents *The Cockettes* (1998), directed by Bill Weber and David Weissman, capturing The Cockettes' wacky, psychedelic drag-queen romps of the early 1970s. Free. Noon. 100 Larkin St. (at Grove).

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Glance back at IML '03

Reflections on a huge success

by Mister Marcus

The weather in Chicago during IML 2003 weekend was not unlike that of San Francisco, overcast in the mornings and sun throughout the rest of the day. If you were a stranger there, the first clue you got that it was a leather event would have been at check-in at the Palmer House. Each guest was issued plastic keys to his/her room emblazoned with the logo for the 20th annual Folsom Street Fair in San Francisco! Somebody has some marketing savvy!

The lobby of the Palmer House Hilton never had so much traffic on its carpeted magnificence. Situated in Chicago's world-famous Loop, this was the second time the hotel has hosted IML and they did a magnificent job. On the evening of the opening ceremonies, the manager of the hotel addressed the crowd in a very receptive manner and welcomed leather back to his hotel. Gary Chichester is a wizard when it comes to public relations and this was a coup for him.

There are a thousand tales emanating from IML 2003. Here are a few noteworthy ones, although I could never capture some of the more personal situations:

After the contest on Sunday night, I was sitting in the lobby with Judy Tallwing McCarthy, Vern Stewart, Peter Fiske, Thom Dombrowski, and other "notables" when a young leather man stopped short to inquire: "Is this the receiving line?" to which Mr. Stewart responded: "No, it's the wailing wall." Guffaws all around.

The SoMa Bare Chest Calendar made its debut in the three-floor Leather Mart to wide acclaim, and it was reported that calendar sales for the weekend totaled more than \$4,000. That is a very good start for this year's gem. Almost all 12 calendar men were present, and calendar photographer James Scott Geras was on hand as a "newbie" to IML. I am sure he found plenty of model material for years to come!

International Ms. Leather Russ Cosgrove made it to IML after lengthy negotiations to get there. The Canadians attending IML all had horror stories to relate getting through customs.

"R.J." Chaffin of Chicago and his efficient cohort Bob Graves (owner of the Full Moon Saloon in Orlando, Florida) again set up the mammoth Leather Mart in the



Mister Marcus

IML 2003 Russ Cosgrove, left, seems obviously happy with her new "sash husband," John Pendal, IML 2003. Ms. Cosgrove passes her sash at IML 2003 in Omaha in July 2003.

hotel and everyone seemed satisfied with their location, as sales were rampant throughout.

Yes, in answer to all your inquiries, there was a "tie" for the IML 2003 title between John Pendal and Donald Dotson, the first runner-up. To break the tie, the scores thrown out of the Olympic scoring system were added in to determine the winner. Nevertheless, the final outcome was greeted with enthusiasm all around.

Mr. Los Angeles Leather Stephen Blackwell, the second runner-up, will serve well as a spokesperson for the boy community. In the final analysis, it was the first time ever for a British contestant to win, leaving only a leather man from Chicago and Canada yet to mount the winning dais.

There were no outbursts, stomping out in anger, cursing or displays of poor sportsmanship by any of the IML 2003 contestants after the Top 20 were announced. These were no losers, but a group of men who did their best. All who sent a candidate to IML should be proud of their entries. What a sight to behold all of them onstage!

Chuck Rodocker, owner of the world-famous Touché Bar in Chicago, proved to be a long-enduring supporter and friend of all who visit Chicago. His accountant is probably in an uproar over the bill for dozens of long-stemmed American Beauty Roses that Mr. Rodocker sent to long-time friends of IML. I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Rodocker at least a year before IML even started. He remains the ever-supportive, ever-thoughtful and ever-caring man he has always been — an exemplary icon of

leather solidarity, indeed.

Of all the parties that were thrown during IML 2003 weekend, the vote is in and the Onyx Leathermen of Chicago got the nod from all. It was a sizzling dance party and even a few old foyers were seen boogying around the floor. This is not to demean the efforts of all the other parties, but the Onyx Party rocked!

It's safe to say that IML 2003 gets an A+ for this year's production. Executive Director Bill Stadt wasn't hopping all over the place with ear phones, but relied on his dedicated staff to make the production run smoothly and indeed it did. It was silver, silver everywhere, including a 99% silver 2003 American Silver Dollar to IML winner John Pendal in a congratulatory case.

I'm sorry if you missed it this year. The IML 25th Anniversary Show was definitely a "sterling" event!

More climaxes ahead

Aside from your sexual endeavors, the coming months will see more thrilling climaxes of leather endeavors, including International Ms. Leather in Omaha, Ms. World Leather in Dallas, International Sir and boy in St. Petersburg, Florida and many other smaller leather events. Cities around the country are gearing up for pride parades. Also coming up is Folsom Street East in New York City, all the regional International Sir/boy contests, Leather Pride Week in San Francisco will be hopping with the Mr. San Francisco Leather 2004 contest, the Leather Pride Walk and the Folsom Street Fair. So hang in there, plan ahead, and revel in your leather world as it exists today.

next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Weekend, June 4-7

International Mr. Deaf Leather 2003 competition takes place in Orlando, Florida this year. Most of the action is at Bob Graves' Full Moon Saloon.

Sunday, June 8

"Giving Back" is title of a recital on the big organ at Mission Dolores Basilica by leather maven/biker David Dehner to benefit the Inter-Club Fund at 1700. Tix are \$15 and \$10 for seniors and disabled.

Tuesday, June 10

Annual Awards Banquet for the AIDS Emergency Fund at Club Mezzanine with \$125 ducats. Activists and supporters will be honored, silent auc-

tion, entertainment, VIPs.

Bondage Buddies at 933 Harrison tonight. Get all tied up and involved when the doors open 2100-2300. Call 777-HEAD.

Weekend, June 13-15

Mama's Annual Family Reunion with action at the Russian River Resort (Triple R) all weekend including the Russian River Leather Sir/boy competition. You need stamina for this one!

Sunday, June 15

It's Father's Day and the SF Leather Daddies are hosting a beer/soda bust at the Eagle Tavern today from 1500 to 1800 for \$8, with drawings, auction items, and entertainment by the drag-rock band Pepperspray. Don't miss it all you "daddies"!

PORN

Who's naughty & nice?

by John F. Karr

Although MSR Studios crowded about the awards earned at the recent GVN's by their feature, *White Trash*, all eight were for categories peripheral to sexual content, like packaging and marketing. Now, here's the feature that should win the Studio awards where it counts: in your groin.

The List, which stars Alex LeMonde, late of JetSet Studios and soon to be beloved of *tout le monde*, plus Michael Brandon and his trusted sidekick, Monster, is based on a simple premise: two undeniable stars of porn make lists of men they'd like to fuck. And then they check 'em off in four fab scenes. Mr. Brandon is dependably rousing, first with Nick Thomas, and then, in a threeway with Trent Cougar, Andrew Addams. But in two scenes that add emotion to vehemence, Mr. LeMonde goes to the moon with Trey Rexx and Jordan West. All three of these superbly beautiful and dynamic sex-



Karnal Knowledge

ualists will have to go far to top the satiation they provide here.

The first scene has no set-up, which is good, although joining Michael with Nick in mid-gag is somewhat abrupt. The sudden sight of Michael's Monster, looking truly imperious, is startling. It's never looked harder. The guys are in one of those fake porn-set dungeons (laminate red-brick walls, brand-new leather items hung too neatly about). But there's nothing fake about their passion, as Michael slams the never-ending tail that is his dick down Nick's throat, and then, in a real squirmin' inducer, up the tawny, yawning slot of his asshole. As a receiver, Nick's a little passive, but one admires his engulfing squat, and Michael's parry-and-thrust cocksmanship.

Alex and Trey are in mid-kiss when we join them, clothed and nestling on a sofa. Alex makes out kinda romantic, and Trey smiles. I just love it when a butch guy has a good time sans grimace. The men make out a lot, and Trey's sun-bleached curls tumble into his

Trey Rexx and Alex LeMonde are dynamic sexualists in *The List*.

Courtesy of MSR Studios

face. When Trey's pants open, his dick pops out fully hard. And fully beautiful. Long and true, it's a suitable centerpiece for the regal

Mr. Rexx (whose name, decoded, means Very Much the King; indeed), LeMonde's flat body is lean and muscled, his expression warm, his dick held surprisingly high for the length and weight it carries. The pair's sucking of these exemplar cocks is palpably felt.

Turnabout rimming explores two lush assholes, before Trey backs onto Alex's dick. Usually a top, Trey is a reactive bottom who stays fully hard as he begs for stronger thrusts. And gets them. Between moans, he laughs and smiles. This hot stud is such a charmer, something his previous movies haven't revealed. Finally, Alex's finger stuffed up his bum, Trey drops a heavy load, as does Alex. Deep kisses; fade out. Memories are made of this.

Cream sauce

Scene three serves up Andrew Addams, whom Brandon rightfully calls "a nasty fucking pig bottom." Since Addams likes it rough, Trent Cougar is called in to help. I like the burly, broadly dicked Trent a lot, and this is the most concentrated display of his surly leathersex style I've seen. In this purposefully abusive scene, the two men simultaneously cream Addams from both ends in a most ungentlemanly fashion.

The List's memorable finale is

as strongly masculine as the preceding scene, but without its punishing intent. LeMonde's partner here is Jordan West, a striking dirty blond with cute smile and twinkling eyes. And talk about ripped — his skin is wrapped as tightly 'round his body as the hoops that hug a barrel. This one's a stick of dynamite masquerading as a bon bon. He gets sloppily messed up sucking Alex's awesomely projectile pecker. The saliva streams down LeMonde's cock in rivulets, and drips off his balls. Then, West's own boyishly pert cock straining for lift-off, he squats down on LeMonde's high-rise erection while facing the camera — my favorite position for viewing — taking a full five minutes to accommodate LeMonde (I truly appreciated the nearly real-time allotment the scene so deservedly receives). Then the bucking's a real thrill-ride, West bouncing so strenuously that the bed becomes a trampoline, throwing the guys up high and crashing West down with gut-splitting impact. Not even Cirque de Soleil, with those high-flying twin brothers wrapped moistly around each other, has an act this thrilling. Throughout the movie, sights are neatly documented in unflinchingly clear close-ups (excellent videography by Ed Maxx: steady, and lingering on the exact spots I want to see). Altogether, the best film director Tony Alizzi has made. *The List* is a keeper; it's definitely on my short list. ▼

www.MSRvideos.com; (877) 361-3400

Daddy, Diva...

◀ page 33

with gay implications, *The Daddy, the Diva, and the Detective* promised to take this well-trod genre in new directions. Alas, that's not the case.

What appears to be a standard-issue script has been put into service, and while, yes, you do have a drag queen and leather guy in the leading roles, the story is still a hoary tale of straight characters and murder-mystery clichés. How much more fun it could have been had a script with gay situations and sensibilities been concocted.

Even apart from the script's sexual orientation, there wasn't much incentive to sort who did what to whom.

Not that there wasn't fun to be had, but it took its time in arriving. Little was done at the start to pull together the diverse audience during an awkward reception around a plate of cheese and crackers, as characters with names like Agatha Dimwitty and Dudley Hardly fussed about. Once everyone took their seats at pre-assigned tables, some bonding did occur, but the cast, who are supposed to be guests like us, never really melded into the group and would disappear for long stretches

es (to the displeasure of Idajane, who also lamented that most of the murders took place out of sight).

A reasonable dinner (our choice: pork or salmon) is served up, and a cash bar is available. (A shot of bourbon proved helpful.) But the real fun occurred when the structure loosened up enough to finally let the evening go gay.

The Daddy, the Diva, and the Detective will run at the Archbishop's Mansion on Sundays through June 20. Tickets are \$85 and include a three-course meal. (A portion of the proceeds goes to the San Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund). Call 626-2950. ▼

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

Lastly, a sad note

It is with much sorrow reporting the passing of Chuck Lance, Mr. Louisiana Leather 2000, last Friday, May 30 in Covington, Louisiana. Chuck competed at IML 2000 and was among the Top

20 in the rankings. His 90-second speech during the competition was met with a standing ovation when he emphasized the need to encourage our youth (especially the "boy" population) and to mentor them in protocol, the leather mantra — "Safe, Sane, Consensual" — and manners, respect, loyalty and honor. His involvement in the Pantheon of Leather Awards

when held in New Orleans was a superb victory lunch for all at the Le Petite Theatre courtyard. A warm, sincere smile, advice when asked, a handsome leather man and a shining example of leather pride is the man that was Chuck Lance. His friends in the lower 48 and especially in Anchorage, Alaska mourn the loss of a great guy and he will be sorely missed. ▼

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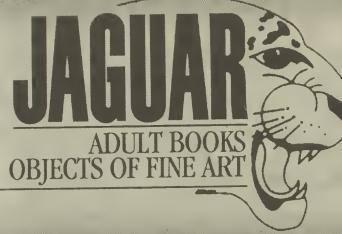
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BEST OF BROADWAY

Harvey Milk

◀ Arts cover

posters reflect the political aspirations that would lead him to his place in history.

The most powerful relic of the exhibit is its centerpiece: the suit, shirt, tie and well-worn brown oxford shoes that Milk wore the night he was killed. To look at the bullet-torn clothes, the white shirt covered with dried brown blood, the shattered pocket comb and bullet-punctured letters that were in his chest pocket, is to stare in the face of history. If you are gay, it is your history.

Much of what we take for granted about gay culture today began the night Harvey Milk was killed a mere 25 years ago. A group of men who gathered to sing on the steps of City Hall that night evolved into the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, the world's first gay chorus. Today there are more than 200 such groups worldwide.

The afterlife section of the exhibit reveals the impact that Milk's life and death had on the gay community not just of San Francisco, but of the world. The White Night Riots that erupted in protest to the light sentence given to Dan White (who killed Milk and Mayor George Moscone) were a flashpoint in the gay liberation movement. The first National Gay Rights March on Washington in 1978 was a tribute to Milk.

The exhibit reminds us that Milk's legacy is reflected in the Oscar-winning documentary *The Times of Harvey Milk*, in Randy Shilts' book *The Mayor of Castro Street*, in the children's book *The Harvey Milk Story*, and in a 1995 opera commissioned by the Houston, New York City and San Francisco Operas.

A new home

Housed in the bright new SoMa home of The GLBT Historical Society, the intimate museum space presents new opportunities for the organization that has been collecting and archiving gay and lesbian material since 1985.

The Society's archives includes thousands of posters and hundreds of thousands of photographs, documents and memo-



Crawford Barton

Milk in 1978: Seeing the exhibit is like staring into the face of history.

rabilia that chronicle queer history in San Francisco.

Journalists, documentary filmmakers, graduate students and professional academics use the archives for research. People in search of a long-lost uncle or relative consult the archives' indexes to *Bay Area Reporter* obituaries.

The GLBT Historical Society archive is available to the public free of charge and is accessible via www.glbthistory.org.

"Our initial goal was the idea to save our own history because no one else will," says Executive Director and Exhibit Curator Susan Stryker. "We're now transforming our public image from a research archive to a museum with a research center in it. This move to the city's cultural area is part of that."

For Stryker, putting together the museum's inaugural exhibit has proven to be a very large labor of love. "Curating a show is like directing a movie," she says. "You can't do it yourself. The level of

detail is mind-boggling."

But some experts in the field have donated their time to make *Saint Harvey* a world-class presentation. The exhibit is designed by Alan Greenspan, whose many creative credits include designing the spectacular hats of *Beach Blanket Babylon*. Elizabeth Cornu, conservator for the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, is serving as exhibit installation consultant.

"I wanted to tell the story," says Stryker. "And they've offered really great advice on how to tell it."

And what a story it is. ▼

Saint Harvey: The Life and Afterlife of a Modern Gay Martyr, at The International Museum of GLBT History, 657 Mission St., #300, June 6-April 2004, Tues.-Sun., 1-5 p.m. (\$4). Reception, June 5, 6-9 p.m. (\$10). Free open house, June 8, 12-5 p.m. Information: (415) 777-5455; www.glbthistory.org

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Lou Harrison

◀ page 34

"I'm a grown-up kid," Harrison once said. "Art to me is play. Children get very serious about play. It's not frivolous, it's learning. If it's beautiful, that's a welcome bonus." It was customary for Lou to make the "bonus" a central part of his work.

"Lou was interested in bringing beauty back to music after a period of composition marked by ugliness and complexity," said Cahill. "He had an enormous enthusiasm for music of all different kinds and managed to embrace all of it, sometimes in one piece. For instance, he would write a piece for American gamelan that included a musical form that dates from medieval Europe."

Betty on board

The June 8 Tribute to Lou Harrison will feature performances by Jody Diamond, one of Lou's first gamelan teachers, who has premiered and recorded much of his music, and the extraordinary percussionist Willy Winant, who also worked extensively with Harrison. Diamond will conduct and play Gamelan Si Betty, the unique gamelan built by Lou and his late longtime partner William Colvig. Winant will play a wide variety of

Lou's percussion instruments, including water-buffalo bells, cowbells, suspended and muted automobile-brake drums, bell coils, washtub, maracas, windglass, and wooden rattle.

The concert will also include Lou's marvelous *Varied Trio*. Scored for violin, piano, porcelain bowls, baking tins and chopsticks, it was written for and premiered by the Abel-Steinberg-Winant Trio at Hertz Hall in 1987. The trio returns to the venue for the performance.

Also featured is *Sinfony #13*, which premiered in 1941 at SF's California Club, on a concert jointly presented by Harrison and John Cage. This work was thought lost until recently rediscovered at the University of Illinois. It is followed by *Fugue* (1942), composed for an eclectic assemblage of percussion and bell instruments. Completing the program are

Music for Violin with Various Instruments (1967) for African mbira, reed organ, Chinese drums, psaltery and violin; and *Threnody for Carlos Chavez* (1978), a work in which Harrison discovered "the conjunction between Javanese music and medieval rhythmic modalities." A number of these works are featured on *Drums Along the Pacific* (New Albion), a just-released mouth-watering disc featuring

performances by SF Symphony principal violist Gerald Walther, David Abel, William Winant, conductor Dennis Russell Davies, Harrison biographer Leta Miller and others.

The Festival, curated by Cahill, composer Jorge Liderman, and David Wessel, opens on Thursday night, June 5, with the music of UC Professors Cindy Cox and Edmund Campion performed by Cox and the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players. Friday night spotlights the "father of minimalism," Terry Riley, with the composer performing his groundbreaking, psychedelic-generation *A Rainbow in Carved Air* piano improvisation for the first time in over 30 years. Riley will also perform the premiere of his new *Baghdad Highway*, while pianists Cahill and Joseph Kubera, and the Abel-Steinberg-Winant Trio, will apply their gifts to other Riley works.

Saturday brings two special treats, a 6 p.m. concert of music by 2003 Pulitzer Prize winner John Adams and California expatriate Ingram Marshall, followed by a 9 p.m. evening of improvisation with saxophonist Steve Lacy, trombonist George Lewis, and electronic musician David Wessel. ▼

Tickets: (510) 642-9988 or www.calperfs.berkeley.edu.

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Soap dish as the summer doldrums begin

by Victoria A. Brownworth

It's officially summer. The very last season finales have come and gone, and George Bush laid the Memorial Day wreath at Arlington. We wish we could have squeezed out some tears during the latter (we certainly have in years past), but all we could feel was rage at yet another Bush video op. War has yet to end in Iraq (and Afghanistan), and there are daily demonstrations in the Iraqi streets protesting America's continued presence. You won't see it on American TV, but you can catch it on BBC WorldNews.

One TV face who won't be rerun this summer, and one we won't miss, is Ari Fleischer. The Bush press secretary has tendered his resignation (along with EPA head Christie Whitman and a few other Bush leaguers; we can only hope this signals rate leaving a sinking ship). As Fleischer delivered the White House statement last week on why the Bush tax cut doesn't cover the working poor who would most benefit from the child credit and the tax refund, we were reminded yet again of just how empty of humanity he seems to be. We've seen our share of good, bad and indifferent press secretaries (none so fine as *The*

West Wing's CJ), but Fleischer is in a creepy class all his own. We understand he's off to the lecture circuit. He'd do well in *Port Charles* with the other vampires.

We were thrilled to see ABC's interview with Macarena Hernandez. Her name doesn't engender household buzz like Jayson Blair, but she's why Blair got caught at *The New York Times*. His theft of her story on the mother of a soldier missing in action in Iraq was the final nail in his plagiaristic coffin.

Hernandez was an intern in the same affirmative action recruitment program at the *Times* as Blair. Both writers were offered positions, but family concerns forced Hernandez to stay in her native Texas, where she writes for another daily, *The San Antonio Express*. Hernandez was outraged to discover the theft of her work (ABC excerpted sections of the story; Blair barely changed a preposition or comma) as was her editor, who alerted the *Times* they had a plagiarist on their hands. The rest, as they say...

Hernandez's outrage remains undiminished since the story broke. Like many writers of color, she feels tainted by Blair's claims that racism forced him to steal the work of other writers (many of them, it turns out, also of color). Hernandez spoke passionately of yearning to be a writer while growing up in a poor, bilingual community that is part Mexico, part America. She didn't dare believe she could be a writer; she's the only member of her family to go to college, have a career. She feels anger and resentment over Blair's protestations and singular lack of remorse.

"I thought he would be thinking about how to apologize," she mused. Blair's arrogance, Hernandez said, made her feel compelled to speak out. Affirmative action isn't bad because of Blair, she asserted, because it also creates writers like herself. Brava to Hernandez for telling her side; kudos to ABC News for seeking her out and giving the tale depth, not just a few soundbites.

Suds galore

It's shaping up to be an incendiary summer on TV soaps — lots of edgy stories and hot sex. Since

summer prime-time will be rife with new reality shows that don't bear watching (or are unbearable to watch), we suggest setting that VCR for daytime (or catching reruns of excellent prime-time shows from last season, like NBC's superb *Boontown* on Sunday nights).

One soap that ended last week

was the six-season prime-time phenom, *Dawson's Creek*, the show that put the WB on the network map. The series finale was a 10-hankie affair. Jen (Michele Williams), Capeside's resident bad girl, died of a heart abnormality,

leaving her infant daughter Amy (her boyfriend knocked her up and left her last season) to be raised by her best friend, Jack (Kerr Smith), the show's resident queer.



Lavender Tube

Children. We couldn't be more pleased at the twists and turns this story has taken, and the way the industry mag, *Soap Opera Digest*, has gone against type and embraced it, even citing it in last week's issue as the editor's choice story of the week, and using it this week as the basis for a story on taboos on soaps (with a three-quarter-page color shot of The Lesbian Kiss).

GLAAD complained to SOD that daytime needs to address bisexuality and transgender and stop doing so much cross-dressing for fun (heaven forfend!). Clearly GLAAD doesn't get that Bianca (Eden Riegel) and Lena (Olga Sosnovska) are daytime's first queer couple, a journey that took the AMC writers and the stalwart Riegel two-and-a-half years of yeo(wo)man work to achieve. GLAAD's references to the two as "Penthouse lesbians" is unfair and untrue. Having watched this storyline evolve over 31 months (an eternity in soap time), we recognize in Bianca a baby butch like many we have known, and in Lena a worldly-wise woman who uses men to get ahead but gives her heart to women.

GLAAD can bemoan what isn't there yet, but we must applaud what is. ABC lost sponsors, viewers and ratings points over Bianca's storyline, but remained committed to it. Now even straight fans have come to appreciate this couple (though not without prodding from both the actors and SOD). Some still feel the storyline is disgraceful, but for those of us who have spent years watching every Tom, Dick and Mary fall into bed on soaps, it's delicious to see Bianca and Lena doing the same.

Safe sucking

Speaking of soaps, are we alone in wondering why it is so easy to steal blood from General Hospital in *Port Charles*? A few months back we called *Port Charles* the best soap you're not watching, and we still think so, but we do wonder who actually gives blood in the town since so many vampires are running around loose, and such a high percentage of them feed on bagged blood instead of sucking it from unwitting victims. (We remember Wayne Brady's commentary on *PC* in his opener for the *Daytime Emmy Awards*, when he suggested that condoms on those fangs would be a good idea.) With all this blood theft, will there be any to treat Sonny, Carly, et al. on *General Hospital* when yet another mob hit assaults them? Just curious.

Finally, we caught Rosie O'Donnell on Leno last week doing acrobatic tricks. (No, really — she duct-taped her shirt down and stood on her head. This after she balanced a broom and a baseball bat on her hand.) We're all for lesbian motherhood, but perhaps Rosie and wife Kelley need to spend some quality time with adults. Rosie'll be doing the tricks on Nickelodeon in coming weeks. Oh, how the mighty have fallen.

Speaking of the fallen, a VCR alert: Hillary Rodham Clinton will be one-on-one in an ABC interview with Barbara Walters on Sunday, June 8. Clinton's new book just hit the shelves, and the interview is allegedly a tell-all addressing those things we used to care about, like Bill Clinton's sex life. It should provide an interesting hour as Hillary remains the top prop for presidential bidding in 2008. Stay tuned. ▼

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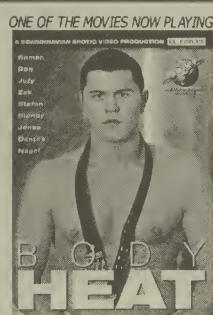
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Muni Metro Afternoon Of 5/15
We got on together at Castro. You: short hair, plaid shirt, adorable freckles and a great smile when you got off. Me: preoccupied reading BAR, moustache. Would like to make you smile again! ☎ 72609

Vlade/hair Force One!
Swap you overdue gala blow job for heavily spurted load twice if you have time. And dad'll never know! Call ex-Telegraph Hill Alan for compassionate service restored. ☎ 72610

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Hot Brazilian Looking 4 Lover
Want nice White man for friendship and more. I am 38, 134lbs. Like movies, soft drinks, professional, simple and romantic. I will make your dream come true. "Under 40 please!". ☎ 72595

Santa Rosa Native'
SWM, 42, 5'6", 170# seeks female. I enjoy drumming and talk radio, chess & tennis. Ex-navy, mobile/home owner. Redhead. ☎ 72613

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Mellow, Mature Black Gentleman
Would like to meet a mature male with a husky build and moustache for good times. I'm 49, 5'9", 180, thinning hair, moustache, endowed. Downtown Oakland/SF areas. ☎ 72597

Straight White Men!
For straight-looking gay guys wanted for fun sex to watch videos, j.o., 69, etc. If hung a plus. Call me. ☎ 72598

Nice Bottom Oakland Boy
Nice boy looking for Oakland top's 5'10", 165 smooth, nice bubble butt call me. ☎ 72605

Gay Male Nude Photo Models
Mature (60s) GWM photographer is seeking hot and hunky GWM, GAM, GLM, 25 to 60, to pose for nude, sexy and erotic photos. Let me put you in pictures! ☎ 72599

Mature Masculine Submissive.....
Seek dominant top for BDSM play experienced imaginative a plus. ☎ 72600

Long Black Or Latin Uncut Top
Wanted by GWM 61, 195#, 8" cut for 69, watching porn, getting sucked and do me dogie style. ☎ 72601

"Desires"
Goodlooking man 50" large chest, large round 50g nipples to suck on and a 9 1/2" to 10" and 7 1/2" round dick to be fucked by you 18 to 30. ☎ 72602

"Trangender"
I'm big and lovely. Large big tits and dick to suck. You any age 18 to 50 that can do what I say. ☎ 72603

Smooth Slim Group Cock Wanted
In shape 6'1", 190lb, German Italian, male seeks a group of smooth, slender men or "G's". Let's get together so that you can take turns fucking me. ☎ 72604

Hung And Sexy Hispanic Guys
Needed. For fun sex, j.o., 69, to watch videos etc. If hung "8" "9" "10" great- If hung smaller o.k., but call me! ☎ 72606

Teach A Submissive His Place!
Otherwise straight WM, 44, needs ongoing lessons in humility from circumcised men who will degrade, j.o., and piss on him. Your friends may watch or join. Black or heavyset welcome! ☎ 72611

Spank Your Butt
Hot, masculine top, 38, 5'11", 175lbs, seeks well-built bottom with nice, round ass for over the knee spanking, role playing and plowing your ass. ☎ 72612

Cum To Santa Cruz/Monterey Co.
Cruise down for a weekend. Do your thing during day. Jet GWM, 50, orally service you at night. All races welcome. Stay over - or not. Must be 18-28 and fit. ☎ 72614

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GWM, 35, trim, into natural barefoot lifestyles: always barefoot, everywhere wants similar guys with tough, filthy feet for barefoot orgies on grimy streets. Will worship your filthy feet; mutual o.k. ☎ 72618

Round Robin Round Robin Round
After your first heavily load drinking your bladder dry too, licking all conceivable sweat off now in maculated balls, and eating amazingly shit-free ass, nothing to do but repeat! ☎ 72619

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Name	Daytime Telephone
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City	State Zip

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Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

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40yo. blond 6', 170, friendly, sexy.

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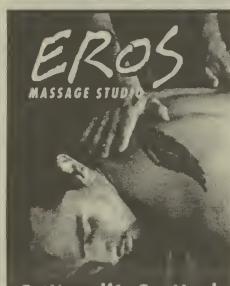
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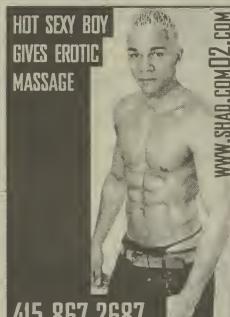
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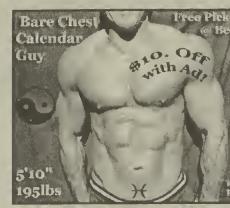
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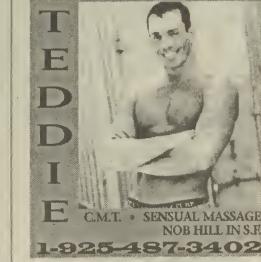
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Sensual full body acupressure &

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Gotta wrestle me and win to top me.
Wrestling night at Powerhouse.
Thursday, June 5th 10pm.
Hot men (Paul T and Michael - Woof)
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Excellent full body massage by strong
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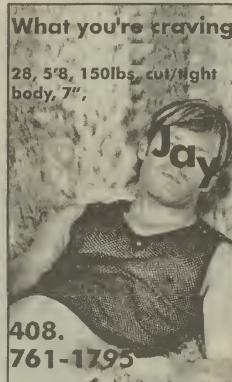
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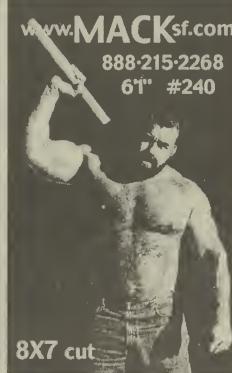
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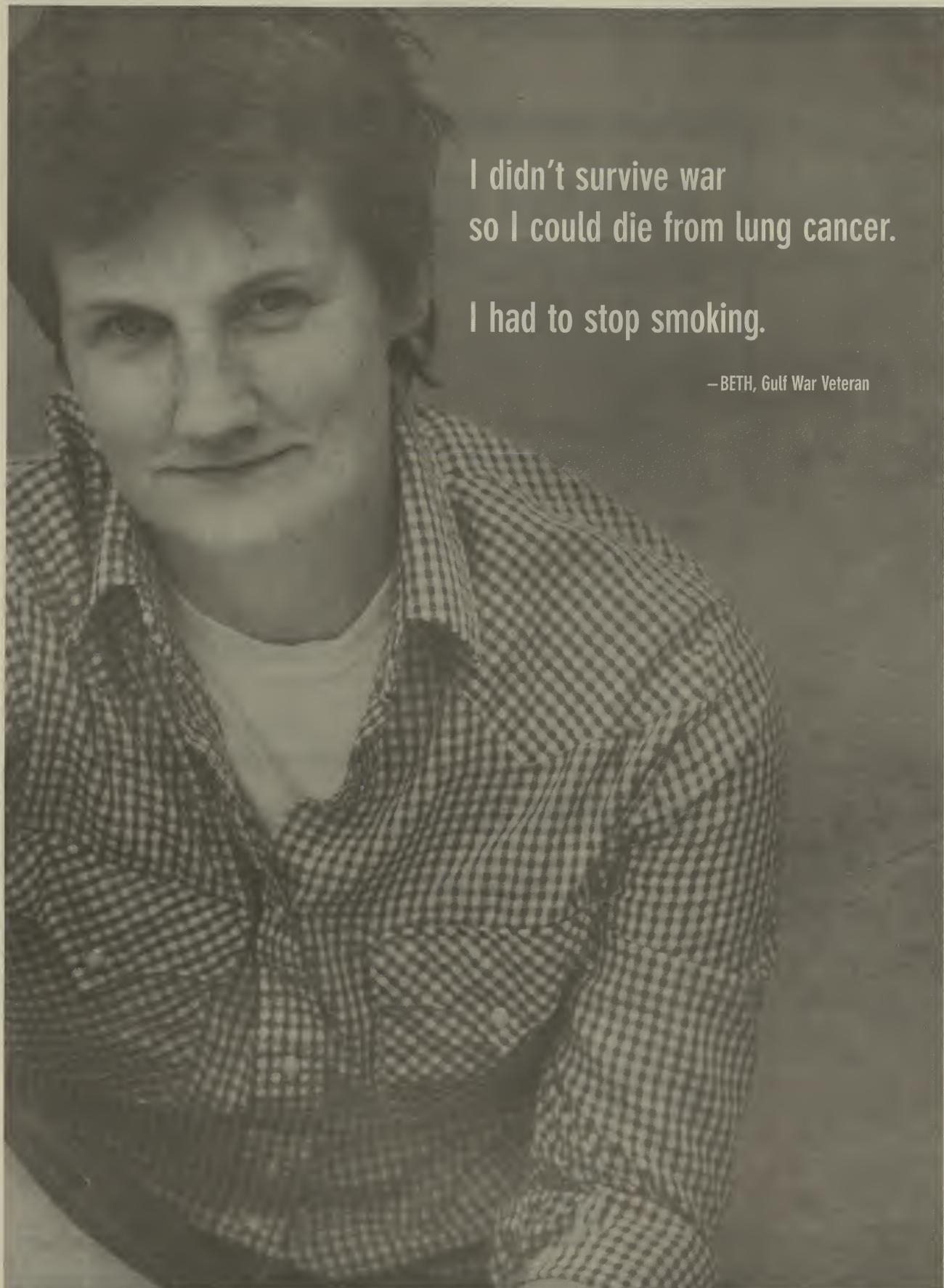
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